



**FOREIGN
BROADCAST
INFORMATION
SERVICE**

Daily Report

East Asia

**FBIS-EAS-94-066
Wednesday
6 April 1994**

Daily Report

East Asia

FBIS-EAS-94-066

CONTENTS

6 April 1994

NOTICE TO READERS: An * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

INTER-ASIAN AFFAIRS

Agreement Creates 'East ASEAN Growth Area' [MANILA STANDARD 27 Mar]	1
Article Views Mekong's Economic Potential [BUSINESS TIMES 30 Mar]	1

NORTHEAST ASIA

Japan

NTT Chief Criticizes Annual USTR Report [KYODO]	4
Letter to U.S. Relates Phone Deal Intentions [KYODO]	4
Okinawan Leaders React to U.S. Helicopter Crash [Tokyo TV]	4
Tokyo Urges DPRK To Attend Tokyo Symposium [KYODO]	5
Official Urges Early Revision of SDF Law [KYODO]	5
Stationing AWACS at Hamamatsu Base Proposed [KYODO]	5
Head of Japan-Russia Business Committee Named [KYODO]	6
Regular Flights Open Between Hokkaido, Sakhalin [KYODO]	6
Hosokawa Receives OECD Secretary General [KYODO]	6
'Source' Quoted on Agenda for Naples G-7 Summit [KYODO]	6
Hanoi Agrees to Osaka-Ho Chi Minh City Flight [KYODO]	7
Missing PRC Business Trainees Increase in 1993 [KYODO]	7
Wool Textile Maker Plans Joint PRC Venture [KYODO]	7
Kazakh President Arrives for Four-Day Visit [KYODO]	7
Watanabe Considered for LDP Vice Presidency [Tokyo TV]	8
Hosokawa: JNP-Sakigake Merger Not 'Commitment' [KYODO]	8
Hosokawa Reiterates Resignation Remarks Denial [KYODO]	8
Yokohama Mayor Takahide Reelected 3 Apr [KYODO]	9
Ibaraki Governor Said To Receive Illegal Money [KYODO]	9
Hayami Comments on Recovery, Stronger Yen [KYODO]	10
Fujii: Economy in 'Extremely Delicate Stage' [KYODO]	10
Panel Examines Ways To Finance Income Tax Cuts [KYODO]	10
Agency Accepts No New Firms as Rice Importers [KYODO]	10
Ministry Report Urges More Stable Rice Supply [KYODO]	11
Report Recommends Weakened Product Liability Law [KYODO]	11
Hosokawa Supports Civil Servant Pay Raises [KYODO]	11
'Discount Race' Intensifies in Steel Industry [KYODO]	11
Power Consumption Rose 3.4 Percent in Feb [KYODO]	12

North Korea

CPRF Statement Denounces Patriot Deployment [Pyongyang Radio]	12
Hanminjon Publishes Declaration on Situation [KCNA]	13
Chongnyon Denounces U.S. 'War Provocation' [KCNA]	14
ROK Diplomatic Maneuvers Criticized [KCNA]	14
ROK 'Military' Ties to Japan Condemned [KCNA]	14
Reunification Groups Meet in Tokyo, Charge U.S. [KCNA]	15
Amnesty International Focuses on ROK Security Law [KCNA]	15
Chondoist Party Supports ROK Opposition Visit [KCNA]	15
ROK Opposition Opposes GATT Trade Accord [KCNA]	15
ROK Party Acts Against Market Opening [KCNA]	16
ROK Students Protest Arms Sales, Trade Accord [KCNA]	16
Ninth Supreme People's Assembly Opens 6 Apr	16

Agenda Adopted [KCNA]	16
KYODO Reports on Opening	16
KCNA Details Session	16
Premier's Address Highlighted [KCNA]	17
Leaders Attend Opening Session [Pyongyang Radio]	18
Military Attaches Attend Army Dance Performance [KCNA]	18
Anniversary of Abolition of Tax System Marked [KCNA]	18
KSDP Delegation Returns From Latin America [KCNA]	19
Kang Song-san Hails Burkina Faso Premier [KCNA]	19
Kim Il-song Sends Greetings to Guinea President [KCNA]	19
Kim Chong-il Sends Birthday Tables to Delegates [KCNA]	19
Kim Il-song Sends Greetings to Senegal President [KCNA]	19
Dailies Note Anniversary of Republic of Guinea [KCNA]	20
Friendship Delegation Leaves for Belarus [KCNA]	20
PWK Sends Greetings to Turkish Party [KCNA]	20
Officials Honor Anniversary of Martyrs Tomb [Pyongyang Radio]	20
Officials Attend Opening of Athletic Meeting [Pyongyang Radio]	20
Officials Attend Opening of Sports Contest [KCNA]	20
O Chin-u Meets With New Cuban Ambassador [KCNA]	21
Envoys Make Overseas Visits [Pyongyang Radio]	21
Social Scientists Depart for India [KCNA]	21
WPK Group Leaves for Greece; Arts Troupes Arrive [KCNA]	21
New Delhi To Host International Chuche Seminar [KCNA]	21
Symposium Held on Kim Il-song '10-Point Program'	22
Program Described [KCNA]	22
Speakers Laud Program [KCNA]	22
Leaders Attend Symposium [Pyongyang Radio]	23
Works of President Kim Il-song Reported Abroad [KCNA]	23
Kim Il-song's Work Published in Pakistan [KCNA]	24
Kim Il-song 'Reminiscences' Disseminated Abroad [KCNA]	24
Seminars on Kim Il-song's Work Held Abroad [KCNA]	24
Volume of 'Reminiscences' Published by WPK [KCNA]	25
Works by Kim Chong-il Reported Abroad [KCNA]	25
Poem on Kim Chong-il Said Distributed in ROK [KCNA]	25
Writings of Kim Chong-il Studied in South [KCNA]	25
Art Troupes Arrive for Friendship Art Festival [KCNA]	26
Chongnyon Opera Troupe Arrives in Pyongyang [KCNA]	26
Art Exhibit Marks Kim Il-song's Birthday [KCNA]	26
International Reunification Group Arrives [KCNA]	26
Soot Recommended for Efficient Fuel Consumption [MINJU CHOSON 26 Jan]	26
Countryside Begins Spring Tilling, Planting [KCNA]	27
Quarterly Economic Quotas Reported Fulfilled [KCNA]	27
Soldiers Undertake Highway Construction Project [KCNA]	28
TV Drama on Agriculture Cooperative Popular [KCNA]	28

South Korea

Kim Tae-chung Comments on DPRK Nuclear Issue [YONHAP]	28
No 'Consensus' in Ministers' Meeting on DPRK [CHUNGANG ILBO 6 Apr]	29
PRC-DPRK Military Cooperation Reported [CHOSON ILBO 6 April]	30
U.S. Urges DPRK Allow Inspection by 15 Apr [YONHAP]	30
U.S. Official on 'War of Nerves' With DPRK [THE KOREA HERALD 6 Apr]	30
Government: Envoy Exchange, Inspection Necessary [YONHAP]	31
Chochongnyon Official on DPRK Succession [YONHAP]	31
Kim Yong-sam: No Asylum for DPRK Loggers [YONHAP]	31
DPRK Ambassador to India Interviewed [YONHAP]	32
DPRK Letter to UN Chief 'Threatened' War [HANGUK ILBO 6 Apr]	32
Trade Meeting With U.S on 4,5 Apr Reported [YONHAP]	32
Think Tank Advises Seoul on Section 301 Bill [THE KOREA TIMES 6 Apr]	33
Tariff Increase Considered on Apparel, Footwear [THE KOREA HERALD 2 Apr]	33
MOF Announces Tariff Rate Reform Plan [THE KOREA TIMES 3 Apr]	34

Report on Ship Used by Koreans To Visit DPRK [CHOSON ILBO 1 Apr]	34
Government, Japan To Expand Military Exchanges [YONHAP]	35
Security Policy Coordination Board Planned [THE KOREA TIMES 6 Apr]	35
Yi Ki-taek Criticizes Seoul at News Conference [YONHAP]	36
Poll Shows 82 Percent Support Policy 'Direction' [YONHAP]	36
Kim Dissatisfied With Illicit Campaigning Cases [THE KOREA HERALD 2 Apr]	37

SOUTHEAST ASIA

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Sweden's Bildt Discusses Situation in North Korea [Radio Sweden]	38
PRC Foreign Ministry Delegation Arrives 5 Apr [BERNAMA]	39
Cambodia 'Anxious' for Embassies in ASEAN [NEW STRAITS TIMES 4 Apr]	39
Foreign Minister Meets Cambodia's Sirivut [BERNAMA]	40
Cambodia Hails Malaysian Policy Toward Neighbors [Kuala Lumpur International]	40
British Minister Wants Improved Relations [BERNAMA]	40
Defense Minister Emphasizes 'Defense Diplomacy' [Singapore Radio]	40
Protection of Intellectual Property Rights Assured [BERNAMA]	41

Cambodia

Hun Sen Meets China's Deputy Governor [AKP]	41
Ranariddh's Remarks Concerning Thailand, KR [AFP]	41
Khmer Rouge Releases 18 Government Soldiers [Bangkok TV]	42
Ranariddh Discusses Current Situation [Phnom Penh Radio]	42
VGNUFC Reports Detailed Pailin Situation	45
Battlefield Report: 30 Mar-2 Apr	45
Battlefield report: 4-5 April	45
Government Troops Said To Seize Khmer Rouge Base [AFP]	46
Cabinet Session Approves Press Code, Other Bills [Phnom Penh Radio]	46

Indonesia

Summit Meeting Held With Netherlands in Jakarta	47
Suharto Meets Lubbers for Talks [Jakarta Radio]	47
Suharto Hosts Banquet [Jakarta Radio]	48
Foreign Debt Nearing Critical \$100 Billion [Jakarta Radio]	48
Official Wants Investment in 'Strategic Minerals' [ANTARA]	48

Laos

Summit Meeting Held With Australia in Vientiane	49
Australian Prime Minister Arrives [Vientiane Radio]	49
President Receives Keating [KPL]	49
PASASON Welcomes Visit [Vientiane Radio]	49
President Receives Vietnamese Vice Prime Minister [KPL]	50

Philippines

Ramos Urges DPRK To Accept Nuclear Inspections [Quezon City TV]	50
NPA: 'Large Areas' Reclaimed From Government [MALAYA 30 Mar]	51
Manila Unveils Development Projects for Baguio [MANILA BULLETIN 30 Mar]	51
Arturo Enrile Appointed AFP Chief of Staff [Quezon City Radio]	52

Thailand

Embassy Expects U.S. To Link GSP Privileges [THE NATION 6 Apr]	52
Military Denies Helping Pol Pot Escape Pailin [THE NATION 6 Apr]	52

Minister Comments on Missing Russian Diplomat [THAILAND TIMES 6 Apr]	53
Writer Examines Ties With United Nations [THE NATION 5 Apr]	53
New Consulates To Open in Auckland, Latvia [Bangkok International]	55
Commander Provides View on Amendment Debate [BANGKOK POST 5 Apr]	55
Central Bank Reports Status of Economy [Bangkok Radio]	56

Vietnam

Nguyen Manh Cam on Results of Cambodia Visit [Hanoi Radio]	57
Japan Announces 'Forced' Refugee Repatriation [VNA]	58
Do Muoi Receives Japanese Business Delegation [VNA]	59
Lao Leaders Receive Deputy Prime Minister [VNA]	59
More on Minister's Meeting With PLO Official [VNA]	59
Trans-Vietnam Power Line Begins Test Operation [VNA]	59

AUSTRALASIA

Australia

BRA Statement Attacks UN Envoy for Comments [Melbourne International]	60
Secessionists 'Split' After UN Envoy's Remarks [Melbourne International]	60
Government Censors Coverage of Leaders' Meeting [AFP]	60

Agreement Creates 'East ASEAN Growth Area'

BK0104115594 Manila MANILA STANDARD in English 27 Mar 94 p 12

[Text] Davao City—Senior economic ministers from Brunei, Indonesia and the Philippines [no mention of Malaysia as published] signed yesterday an agreement creating the East Asean Growth Area (EAGA).

The agreement calls for the formation of a regional economic market of some 40 million people living in Mindanao and border areas of East Asean countries.

Signing the agreement for Brunei are Pehin Dato Haji Abdul Rahman Haji Taib, Minister of Industry and Primary Resources; Indonesia's Ir. [academic title] Hartarto, Coordinating Minister for Industry and Trade; Malaysia's Tun Daim Bin Zainuddin, Minister Coordinating Growth Triangle Projects and the Philippines' Rizalino Navarro, Secretary of Trade and Industry.

Conference chairman and Philippine head delegate Paul G. Dominguez said the document contains strong recommendation for expanded air links and sea transport services, expanded fisheries cooperation, improved telecommunications, and joint tourism promotions.

The document was forged following two days of talks among 73 delegates of the four countries at the Davao Insular Hotel.

"It is a dream come true," Syvelyn Tan, project director of Private Investments and Trade Opportunities—Philippines (PITO-P) said at the end of the talks.

Tan, chief organizer of "Mindanao Worldbound" conferences over the past two years, who is also organizing the East Asean Business Conferences this May, said it took 20 years to realize the dream, first seen by Mindanao planners in the 1970's.

Local businessmen said they were "thrilled" at the prospect of engaging in power, transport, skills training projects in Mindanao's neighbors.

Philippine delegate and former senator Vicente Paterno, meanwhile, said "the progress of the talks had been very fast" since the state visit of President Ramos to Malaysia in January 1993.

He hailed the document as less legalistic than a Memorandum of Understanding and more business-like.

The signing rites marked the climax of President Ramos' economic diplomacy to increase cooperation in the East Asean subregion, Dominguez said.

He said the desire of the four countries of Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines to establish EAGA was confirmed bilaterally over the next one and half years. [sentence as published]

Article Views Mekong's Economic Potential

BK0104143094 Singapore BUSINESS TIMES in English 30 Mar 94 p 12

[By Indochina correspondent Harish Mehta]

[Text] It has been billed as Indochina's big-ticket economic enterprise. Backed by Laos, Thailand, Cambodia and Vietnam to harness the potential of the region's largest river, the 4,350 km-long Mekong, the multi-billion dollar project will ultimately create three large economic zones in the region's most backward areas.

Should China and Myanmar [Burma] join in, the investments flowing in is expected to turn into a flood.

The four Mekong countries envision the setting-up of the Strategic Study Projects, comprising the three large economic zones, along the course of the river and its tributaries that flow through Laos, Thailand, Cambodia and Vietnam.

These zones will come alive with 11 hydroelectricity generation plants, half a dozen harbours and bridges, and an ambitious agriculture and irrigation programme to be cranked into motion by multilateral loans.

But politics often got in the way of economics.

The future of the 37-year-old Mekong Committee—a four-country group that coordinates the development—is in jeopardy due to differences among the four.

The four dissolved the committee in December 1992 and agreed to forge a new deal on sharing the river water. However, a September 1993 deadline for setting up a new committee passed without agreement being reached.

Thailand has now blocked Cambodia's bid to rejoin a new Mekong Committee until a water-sharing pact is hammered out.

Cambodia, which quit the committee when the Khmer Rouge took over the country in 1975, is however, supported by Vietnam and Laos. Phnom Penh officials have repeatedly told Thailand not to link the membership issue with the water sharing pact.

But Thailand, facing a severe drought, wants more freedom in using water. However, Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia would like the four to reach prior consensus before any water is used.

Tie Limthong, deputy permanent secretary of the Cambodia National Mekong Committee told BUSINESS TIMES [BT] this week: "Cambodia has not yet been re-admitted to the Mekong Committee. A date for the next committee meeting has not yet been set."

Other differences are over inclusion of China and Myanmar in the Mekong Committee. Thailand recently proposed the inclusion [of] both countries, but as the other three members were not enthusiastic, the proposal was dropped for the time being.

Efforts to get the committee running are on, and a breakthrough is expected. The committee's work has since been carried out by an interim committee financially supported by the United Nations.

In the face of this dithering, the well-fleshed out economic zones will have to bide their time.

The first one, called the Upper Mekong Navigation zone lying up-stream in the north, consists of Myanmar, Laos, and small parts of Thailand, Vietnam, and China's Yunnan province.

The concept to build effective navigation and transport systems on the river and its tributaries will benefit a wide swathe from Jinghong in China's Yunnan province, down to Luang Prabang in Laos, covering distance of about 700 km.

The Mekong Committee says that riverine and cross-border trade between Laos, Thailand, China and Myanmar will increase from the present annual level of 20,000 tonnes to over 250,000 tonnes in the year 2000—of which 210,000 tonnes are expected to be transported on the Mekong River, and the remaining on its tributaries such as Nam Ou in Laos.

To prevent bottlenecks from choking off the Mekong, the committee plans an ambitious study.

Economic development in the zone was boosted with the recent completion of a landmark 700 metre-long bridge over the Mekong connecting the Lao capital of Vientiane with Thailand.

This makes it possible to drive from Singapore to China across Malaysia, Thailand and Laos. The US\$30 million (S\$ [Singapore dollars] 47 million) bridge was funded by Australia.

However, Laos was cool to a Thai proposal to build a second bridge over the Mekong. The Lao government told the Thais to wait until the country's internal roads and telecommunications had improved.

Landlocked Laos has also been eyeing prospects of trade with the Chinese province of Yunnan. Both countries have opened a river route to accommodate 150-tonne barges.

Cars from Thailand travel through Laos to markets in Yunnan, and business is booming as middlemen en route take their cuts.

The Upper Mekong Navigation area is also the focus of a major road development programme. Last year, Thailand, Laos, Myanmar and China agreed to set up transport links through the remote Golden Triangle—a move that will give the booming southern Chinese provinces their first overland access to Southeast Asia.

A second economic zone is the Southern Lao Transport Corridor straddling southern Laos, northern Cambodia and central Vietnam.

The development rationale for this area is to provide landlocked Laos with access roads to a seaport in Vietnam.

Lao Deputy Prime Minister Khamphoui Keoboulapha told BT that his country plans to build a deep seaport in Quang Binh in central Vietnam, financed by a build-operate-and-transfer scheme or multilateral loans.

The idea for a port and a road linking Laos with Vietnam was first suggested several years ago by Laos' late president Kaysone Phomvihane. Thailand entered the picture when former Thai premier Chatchai Chunhawan adopted the concept as a way to flesh out his policy of turning Indochinese battlefields into marketplaces.

Thailand, too, is keen to build economic ties with Vietnam and wants to extend a road from Thailand to Vietnam through Laos. Under this plan, Laos would serve as a land-bridge for Thailand to enter Vietnam.

The region is integrating ever closer with an agreement between Thailand and Laos to build a road linking the north-eastern Thai province of Ubon to the southern Lao province of Champassak.

A third economic zone that goes by the name of Inland Navigation Strategy stretches in a wide arc across Cambodia and encompasses a small part of southern Vietnam.

The thrust is on improving river-borne transport of people and cargo that is crucial to the predominantly agricultural Cambodia economy.

Destroyed by the long civil war, the river's infrastructure such as ports and bridges need urgent repair, and large parts of the river are silted and need to be dredged.

By far the biggest investments are being drawn into building electricity-generating plants in all three economic zones. As many as 11 plants are to be built along the course of the Mekong and its tributaries in Laos, Cambodia and Laos in addition to 11 existing plants.

The Mekong basin possesses a potential to generate 58,000 mw (megawatts) of hydroelectricity. Studies show it would be technically and economically feasible to harness about 37,000 mw. Of this amount, a mere 245 mw—less than one per cent of the basin's potential—has been exploited through the construction of 11 dams along the tributaries.

These include the Nam Pong and Lam Dom Noi in Thailand and the largest, the Nam Ngum in Laos with an installed capacity of 150 mw—80 per cent of which is exported to Thailand.

Power projections in the lower Mekong basin show that demand will rise three-fold from about 10,000 mw in 1990 to 24,000 mw in 2000. Thailand will account for about 70 per cent of the demand and require an additional power generation capacity of about 1,000 mw a year from the year 2000 onwards.

To hook up the Mekong region, an integrated transmission system is planned to link the river-based generating plants which will be economically more attractive than either isolated national grids or several parallel regional systems.

While this is still in the distant future, another regional system is set to take off. Next week, Vietnam will be fully linked with a new 1,500-km power line connecting the Hoa Binh hydroelectric plant, 74 km north of Hanoi to Phu Lam in Ho Chi Minh City.

The 500 kv [kilovolts] transmission line will supply 2.5 billion kwh [kilowatt hours] for Vietnam's southern cities.

While large projects are the order of the day, the Mekong countries are also keen on micro-hydropower to accelerate rural electrification.

Micro plants—already operational in some Indochinese countries—are considered environmentally safe compared with diesel generators which have mushroomed all over Cambodia and Vietnam in order to beat the power shortage.

Micro plants, moreover, do not dislocate huge numbers of people from their homes and their ecological impact is much less. For instance, the 20 mw Nam Mae Kham power project in the Thai part of the lower Mekong basin will enable the state to reduce electricity generation by a diesel plant to help meet demand in Chiang Rai which is

just 40 km from the plant site, in addition to supplying 5,000 farming families in the area.

It's a different story in Laos where mini-hydropower plants supplying only the domestic market often turn out to be costly as the power market to be served is small and the energy price low in comparison to the investment.

Still, a 115 kv transmission line from Nam Ngum to Luang Prabang is being planned as a first step to electrify remote northern Laos.

But the line's full power-carrying capacity cannot be utilised during the initial years of operation due to the small domestic power market. However, by connecting various small power plants to the line, the line can operate at full capacity right from the start.

After Laos, Cambodia has the second-largest hydropower potential of over 8,000 mw. At present, the country has a few plants, each with a capacity of less than 10 mw and a combined capacity of 85 mw.

Construction of some of Cambodia's projects, such as Prek Thnaot dam, commenced in 1969 but stalled due to the war. The process began again in 1989 but got bogged down in issues relating to resettlement of some 11,000 people.

The Mekong projects also involve enormous river works such as rehabilitating Phnom Penh port which threatens to become a major bottleneck in the water transport system if further expansion is not carried out early.

All this must wait until the Mekong Committee gets its act together.

Japan

NTT Chief Criticizes Annual USTR Report

OW0604071894 Tokyo KYODO in English 0657 GMT 6 Apr 94

[Text] Tokyo, April 6 KYODO—Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corp. (NTT) on Wednesday [6 April] sought government understanding on its plan to raise some telephone charges. NTT did all it could do to streamline its business, including man power cuts and a reduction in facility expenses, Masashi Kojima, president of the telecommunications giant, told a biweekly news conference.

Kojima also tried to justify NTT's rate hike plan submitted to the Posts and Telecommunications Ministry last week by citing a cumulative 1 trillion yen in rate discounts made in the recent past. NTT plans to raise monthly basic charges from October by an average 18 percent per household and double a directory assistance service rate for two or more uses for any one month from the same telephone number from 30 yen to 60 yen per call.

The step, designed to improve the battered financial standing of NTT, would yield additional revenue of 93.2 billion yen to the company for fiscal 1994 started April 1. But the government is considering postponing enforcement of the increases apparently in response to a barrage of public criticism of the recent rate hike plans for utilities, public transportations and telephones.

NTT, privatized in 1985, should not be treated equally with other companies providing services with public nature, Kojima said.

Kojima criticized the office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) for citing unsatisfactory American access to NTT business in its latest report on foreign trade barriers. Under the current business conditions, it is impossible for NTT to expand equipment purchases from U.S. makers, Kojima said.

Rather than focusing on purchases of foreign products, NTT is willing to form a joint venture with U.S. companies to create new business chances both for NTT and foreign firms, Kojima said.

The annual USTR report released last week urged more efforts by NTT to expand buying of telecommunications equipment from U.S. makers, claiming the American share was unfairly small in view of the international competitiveness of U.S. products.

On a new portable phone system now on a test run, Kojima said NTT plans to offer the service at more reasonable charges than the current pay telephone rate of 10 yen per minute for local calls. Kojima said the government should not impose strict business licensing and other regulations on the new service and other multimedia-related business expected to burgeon toward the next century.

Letter to U.S. Relates Phone Deal Intentions

OW0604104994 Tokyo KYODO in English 0951 GMT 6 Apr 94

[Text] Tokyo, April 6 KYODO—The Japanese Government has told the United States it will take "all available measures" to ensure the implementation of the recent bilateral accord on the opening of Japan's mobile telephone market, the postal ministry said Wednesday.

Japan's intentions were notified in a letter to U.S. Trade Representative Mickey Kantor from Japanese Ambassador to Washington Takakazu Kuriyama, published the same day by the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications. In the letter, dated March 12, the day when the bilateral deal was struck, Kuriyama said the Japanese Government will "monitor and oversee completion of the actions described in the letter," referring to the agreement.

If the actions called for in the agreement have not been implemented, Japan, in consultation with the U.S., "will take all available measures to ensure compliance with the letter by the next quarterly review."

Under the bilateral agreement, Nippon Idou Tsushin Corp. (IDO) will take several steps to help improve access for Motorola Inc. of the U.S. to the Japanese market, including the establishment of 159 new relay stations for Motorola-formula telephone services by October 1995.

The two governments agreed to meet every three months or on request by either government to assess implementation of the agreement. The accord came just in time for the deadline for threatened U.S. trade sanctions against Japan.

Washington had accused Japan of breaching a 1989 Japan-U.S. trade accord meant to boost imports of U.S. cellular phones and set March 17 as the deadline for an announcement of sanctions over its trade disputes with Tokyo.

Okinawan Leaders React to U.S. Helicopter Crash

OW0604141994 Naha NHK Television in Japanese 0932 GMT 6 Apr 94

[Announcer-read report; from the "Evening Network Okinawa" program]

[Text] Regarding today's helicopter crash on Futenma Air Station, Policy Coordinator Choko Takayama of the prefectural government held a news conference and issued the following statement:

It is a matter of sincere regret that such accidents should happen so frequently, as U.S. Forces just caused an F-15 crash on 4 April. We cannot help feeling great anger against repeated accidents. Since Okinawa's reversion to Japan in 1972, CH-46 [Chinook-46] helicopters have

already caused accidents 18 times, and the latest helicopter crash on Futenma Air Station was caused by a CH-46 in October 1992. In addition, U.S. Forces have not yet reported to us on what the cause of the 1992 accident was. We must say that CH-46 is a helicopter with a structural defect. The prefectural government would like to urge U.S. Forces to suspend all operations involving CH-46's until all of them undergo mechanical rechecks.

Governor Masahide Ota is scheduled to visit Tokyo tomorrow. Taking into account today's accident, he will call at the Foreign Ministry, the Defense Agency, and the Defense Facilities Administration Agency to urge definite action by the Japanese Government to prevent the recurrence of accidents by U.S. Forces.

In response to the report on the accident, Ginowan Mayor Seiken Tobaru stated the following:

I am shocked by the helicopter crash in the wake of the 4 April accident on Kadena Air Base. I was struck with horror when I heard of the recurrence of accidents which endanger the safety of local residents. I want the national government to draw up remedies for such abnormal circumstances. I will file complaints tomorrow to both the national government and the U.S. Forces.

In protest against the F-15 crash on 4 April, the Okinawa Prefectural Assembly's Special Committee on U.S. Base-Related Problems has decided to call for an emergency plenary session on 8 April to adopt a resolution calling for all trainings of fighter planes to stop. In addition, today's accident provoked strong reactions among prefectural assembly members. They are contacting members of the U.S. Base Special Committee to incorporate their protest against the helicopter crash into the 8 April resolution.

Tokyo Urges DPRK To Attend Tokyo Symposium
*OW0604090894 Tokyo KYODO in English 0853 GMT
6 Apr 94*

[Text] Tokyo, April 6 KYODO—Japan is calling on North Korea to participate in an international symposium to be held in Tokyo next month on the security situation in Northeast Asia, Foreign Ministry sources said Wednesday [6 April].

The symposium, the second of its kind, will be held May 16-17 and is being organized by the Tokyo-based National Institute for Research and Development in cooperation with a U.S. think tank. Participants in the symposium will include scholars and government officials from such countries as Japan, the United States, South Korea, China and Russia.

The symposium was last held in the U.S. North Korea did not accept an invitation to attend that event.

Official Urges Early Revision of SDF Law

*OW0604123894 Tokyo KYODO in English 0929 GMT
6 Apr 94*

[Text] Tokyo, April 6 KYODO—Japan should be able to use Self-Defense Forces (SDF) ships in addition to government aircraft and SDF transport planes to evacuate Japanese nationals abroad in the event of hostilities, a senior Foreign Ministry official said Wednesday [6 April]. The official made the comment in connection with the problems involving North Korea's alleged development of nuclear weapons.

The official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Japan would be unable to evacuate an estimated 8,000 Japanese nationals living in South Korea if hostilities broke out there, unless SDF ships were made available in addition to government planes. Private planes or ships will not go to places where hostilities are occurring, he said.

The official called for early revision of the SDF law which would enable SDF planes to be dispatched abroad to evacuate Japanese nationals. Offering his personal view, the official added Japan should also be able to evacuate South Koreans who have permanent resident status in Japan.

Stationing AWACS at Hamamatsu Base Proposed
*OW0404091694 Tokyo KYODO in English 0837 GMT
4 Apr 94*

[Text] Tokyo, April 4 KYODO—The Air Self-Defense Force (ASDF) has proposed freeing air space in the vicinity of a base in Shizuoka Prefecture for civilian use in exchange for converting the base into a host facility for AWACS [airborne warning and control system] aircraft, Defense Agency sources said Monday [4 April]. The sources said the proposal was made in talks between the Defense Agency and the Transport Ministry over the use of skies off the ASDF base at Hamamatsu, which is used for training exercises over the Pacific Ocean.

Under the proposal, the base would be used exclusively for AWACS-converted Boeing 767 passenger planes, while its current training function would be shifted to another base, possibly on the Japan Sea coast.

The Transport Ministry has long been eyeing a return of the training air space since a major air corridor runs through it, utilized by about 330 civilian aircraft a day. The number of those planes is expected to increase with the opening of the new Kansai International Airport this fall.

AWACS stands for airborne early warning and control system, where airborne vehicles are equipped with search and height-finding radar and communications equipment for controlling weapons.

Head of Japan-Russia Business Committee Named*OW0504113094 Tokyo KYODO in English 1032 GMT
5 Apr 94*

[Text] Tokyo, April 5 KYODO—The Japan-Russia Business Cooperation Committee decided Tuesday [5 April] to appoint as its chairman Jiro Kawake, honorary chairman of New Oji Paper Co., committee officials said.

The decision was made at an extraordinary general meeting of the committee, which falls under the Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren).

Kawake succeeds Isamu Yamashita, adviser at Mitsui Engineering and Shipbuilding Co., who is to become a special adviser to the private-level business organization aimed at promoting business ties between Japan and Russia.

The appointment of Kawake to the post of chairman is intended to strengthen cooperation with the Russians, especially in the field of pulp development in Siberia, industry sources said. New Oji Paper was formed on October 1, 1993 through the merger of Oji Paper Co. and Kanzaki Paper Mfg. Co.

Regular Flights Open Between Hokkaido, Sakhalin*OW0404120194 Tokyo KYODO in English 1104 GMT
4 Apr 94*

[Text] Hakodate, Hokkaido, April 4 KYODO—Regular flight service began Monday [4 April] between Hakodate on Japan's northernmost main island of Hokkaido and Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk in Russia's Far Eastern island of Sakhalin.

Aeroflot Antonov An-24 twin-turboprop planes, with capacity to seat 32, will fly round-trip on Mondays and Thursdays, officials said. It is the first time in the postwar era that the two countries operate regular flights between Hokkaido and Sakhalin, they said.

The first flight arrived in Hakodate at 3:50 P.M. [0550 GMT] Monday with 30 members of a Sakhalin mission, including Igor Farhutdinov, mayor of the Russian city.

Hakodate Mayor Ryuichi Kidoura welcomed the mission, saying, "Hakodate and Russia have a history of friendship for over 200 years. The opening of regular flights is the beginning of a new history."

The fare is 48,200 yen for a one-way trip and 94,000 yen for a round-trip.

After the welcoming ceremony, the plane left for Sakhalin with Hakodate city officials on board. Hakodate, a major port city in Hokkaido, will dispatch an official mission to Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk in May, the officials said.

Hosokawa Receives OECD Secretary General*OW0404074594 Tokyo KYODO in English 0627 GMT
4 Apr 94*

[Text] Tokyo, April 4 KYODO—Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa voiced hope Monday [4 April] that the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) will play a more prominent role in studying structural problems facing the world, a Foreign Ministry official said. Hosokawa made the comment in a 15-minute meeting with OECD Secretary General Jean-Claude Paye at his official residence, the official said.

Paye agreed it was a good idea to compare notes on problems shared by OECD members and strive together to overcome them, the official said. The OECD chief, who is French, said growth and employment will be at the top of the agenda of OECD's council meeting in June.

Paye also spoke of the need to strengthen ties between OECD and nonmember countries, the official said.

As he was leaving the premier's official residence, Paye described his talk with Hosokawa as "interesting and friendly."

He also told KYODO News Service, "He (Hosokawa) told me about his intent to go on with a program of reform, which is very important for the further success of Japan."

Paye, who arrived in Japan on Sunday for a four-day visit, conferred earlier Monday with the ministers responsible for trade, labor and agriculture.

On Tuesday, Paye is to have talks with the chief of the Science and Technology Agency, Finance Minister Hirohisa Fujii, Bank of Japan Governor Yasushi Mieno and leaders of the Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren).

'Source' Quoted on Agenda for Naples G-7 Summit*OW0604113594 Tokyo KYODO in English 1117 GMT
6 Apr 94*

[Text] Tokyo, April 6 KYODO—The leaders of the Group of Seven industrial nations will likely discuss how to secure growth and employment at their summit in Naples in July, a Japanese Government source said Wednesday [6 April]. The topics of growth and employment will be high on the agenda as the number of people out of work in the G-7 nations stands at about 23 million, the source said.

Following the "jobs summit" held in Detroit in March, the G-7 leaders are expected to agree on the need to take measures to create jobs, the source said.

The G-7 groups Britain, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan and the United States.

The U.S. is also pressing for discussion of labor issues such as goods made by prison labor, the source said.

Also on the agenda will be financial support to Russia and Ukraine, potentially unsafe nuclear reactors in Russia, and trade and the environment, the source noted.

Personal representatives of the G-7 leaders, known as Sherpa, are to meet once or twice a month to discuss details of topics to be on the agenda at the Naples summit before fine-tuning them at a ministerial meeting of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development in June, the source added.

Hanoi Agrees to Osaka-Ho Chi Minh City Flight

OW0204005794 Tokyo KYODO in English 2357 GMT 1 Apr 94

[Text] Tokyo, April 2 KYODO—Japan and Vietnam have agreed to open a flight service between Ho Chi Minh City and the Kansai International Airport opening in September off Osaka, Japanese Transport Ministry officials said Saturday [2 April]. The regular flight service will be the first to open between the two countries since the Vietnam war.

The officials said both Japan and Vietnam will operate thrice-weekly Boeing 767 flights via Hong Kong or Bangkok. Japan Airlines, All Nippon Airways and Vietnam Airlines plan to operate the flights.

The two countries failed to agree, however, on opening a route between Narita Airport, outside Tokyo, and Hanoi since the Japanese airport has no additional space, the officials said.

Missing PRC Business Trainees Increase in 1993

OW0204132694 Tokyo KYODO in English 1255 GMT 2 Apr 94

[Text] Tokyo, April 2 KYODO—The number of Chinese who disappeared after coming to Japan to receive higher professional training while working for business firms almost doubled in 1993 to 65, the national police agency said Saturday [2 April]. Most of these Chinese overstayed their visas and went underground to get higher-paying jobs at places of employment other than the original business firms where they received job training, the agency said.

The number of Chinese who disappeared under similar circumstances in 1992 was 35, it said. Of a total 76 foreign business trainees who went missing in 1993, 85 percent were Chinese.

Many of the missing hid themselves shortly before the expiration of their agreed training tenures and then overstayed their visas to land higher-paying work than their previous jobs, an agency official said.

The Philippines ranked second with nine missing persons, followed by Bangladesh with two, the agency said.

A total of 19,000 foreign business trainees from 108 countries are presently working in Japan, of which Chinese account for about 10,000.

In addition to the missing trainees, 17 Chinese university and college students have disappeared while the whereabouts of 58 Chinese students of technical and language schools also remains unknown, it said. The reasons for the disappearance of the students were not immediately known.

An agency official said, "disappearances among Chinese business trainees may increase further in the future."

Wool Textile Maker Plans Joint PRC Venture

OW0604123394 Tokyo KYODO in English 0931 GMT 6 Apr 94

[Text] Osaka, April 6 KYODO—Osaka-based woolen textiles maker Japan Wool Textile Co. said Wednesday [6 April] it will set up a joint venture in Qingdao, China. The new firm, Qingdao Nipponkeori Textile Co., will be capitalized at 4 million dollars, of which Japan wool will provide 50 percent and Japanese trading house Itochu Corp. and a local government-run company 25 percent each.

The firm, to start operations at the end of this year, will produce wool textiles for men's business suits at five million tons per year, Japan wool officials said. The products are to be sold to Japanese sewing factories operating in China and exported to Japan, they added.

Kazakh President Arrives for Four-Day Visit

OW0604101194 Tokyo KYODO in English 0945 GMT 6 Apr 94

[Text] Tokyo, April 6 KYODO—Kazakhstan's President Nursultan Nazarbayev arrived in Tokyo on Wednesday [6 April] for a four-day visit, and talks with Japanese political and business leaders.

Nazarbayev is scheduled to meet business leaders Thursday and hold talks with Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa in the evening. On Friday, he is to meet Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko, and hold a press conference.

Nazarbayev, 53, is accompanied by Kazakhstan business executives and cabinet ministers, including Akezhan Kazhegeljdin, first deputy prime minister, and Galym Abilsitov, deputy premier, and minister of science and new technology.

In talks between Nazarbayev and Hosokawa, Japan is expected to voice support for Nazarbayev's efforts to promote democratization, economic reforms and a shift toward a market economy, Foreign Ministry officials said.

Japan will give high marks to Kazakhstan's entry into the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT) as a nonnuclear

state last December and reaffirm its intention to cooperate in dismantling Kazakhstan's nuclear weapons in accordance with an agreement signed last month, the officials said.

Specifically, the Japanese Government will agree to help people who were exposed to radioactivity near the former Soviet Union's Semipalatinsk nuclear testing site by sending medical experts and providing medical equipment, ministry sources said.

An estimated 233 million tons of radioactive substances are left in Kazakhstan.

The costs will be covered by 100 million dollars Japan pledged last year to help four former Soviet republics dismantle nuclear weapons. The four are Russia, Ukraine, Belarus and Kazakhstan.

Also on the agenda for talks are environmental cooperation, economic cooperation and expanding personnel exchanges, the officials said. The environmental cooperation involves preservation of the environment in the Aral sea, they said.

Watanabe Considered for LDP Vice Presidency

OW0104144794 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 1043 GMT 1 Apr 94

[Announcer-read report over video; from the "NHK News 7" program]

[Text] The idea has surfaced within the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) of appointing former Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe as LDP vice president to strengthen the party leadership in a bid to recapture power.

The idea has unofficially been discussed, mainly by executives of the Watanabe faction. Some leaders in other factions have also made remarks supporting it. Meanwhile, although Watanabe has not yet decided whether he should accept the offer, he reportedly intends to accept if a consensus is formed within the party.

It is said that while the idea is aimed at strengthening the party's leadership to recapture power, it is also considered a means to keep Watanabe in the party amid speculation that he has been strengthening ties with Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa and Shinseitō [Japan Renewal Party] Chief Secretary Ichiro Ozawa. However, LDP President Yohei Kono and some other party leaders have expressed strong opposition to the idea, saying it might cause a struggle for leadership over party operations. Thus, it is uncertain whether or not the idea will be adopted in the end.

Hosokawa: JNP-Sakigake Merger Not 'Commitment'

OW0404135094 Tokyo KYODO in English 1312 GMT 4 Apr 94

[Text] Tokyo, April 4 KYODO—Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa, acknowledging deteriorating ties with new party Sakigake [Harbinger], said Monday [4 April] a once widely anticipated merger between his Japan New Party (JNP) and Sakigake is not "a commitment."

The relationship between Hosokawa, the JNP leader, and Masayoshi Takemura, chief cabinet secretary and head of Sakigake, has deteriorated so badly that the premier unsuccessfully tried in early March to dump the top government spokesman. The two parties floated the idea of a potential merger last summer.

The two parties currently maintain a loose intraparlimentary group within the House of Representatives.

Asked Monday to elaborate on the JNP stand on the merger plan, Hosokawa replied, "it's still in limbo." Some Sakigake leaders are demanding that Hosokawa's JNP honor "the commitment" to merge with Sakigake.

Hosokawa Reiterates Resignation Remarks Denial

OW0604042694 Tokyo KYODO in English 0416 GMT 6 Apr 94

[Text] Tokyo, April 6 KYODO—Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa said Wednesday [6 April] he has no intention of giving up the premiership, reiterating his denial of reported remarks by him that he wants to quit, officials close to the premier's Japan New Party (JNP) said.

The officials said the premier told a JNP legislator over breakfast, "I neither said such a thing nor have I developed such an idea. I am dismayed." He was referring to reported remarks by two legislators that he said Tuesday he wants to resign.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Masayoshi Takemura, however, told a news conference, "Given the circumstances, the premier should not make remarks indicating he might step down."

Takemura denied the incident will affect the Diet budget debate, currently stalled by a dispute between the ruling coalition and the opposition camp over Hosokawa's allegedly dubious personal finances. The chief cabinet secretary spoke of the need for the government to redouble efforts to achieve a breakthrough in the stalled Diet business next week.

Hosokawa told reporters early Wednesday that he has not said anything about resigning over dinner Tuesday evening at a Japanese-style restaurant in Tokyo with two legislators of the House of Councillors.

One of the two legislators, Yasushi Shimomura of the Club, a small political party, quoted Hosokawa as

telling him and his colleague Kiyoshi Nishikawa, "I want to resign as I am exhausted." Nishikawa confirmed what Shimomura said but added he took the premier's remark as a joke.

In the stalled Diet budget proceedings, the opposition has pressed the premier to account for his 1982 acceptance of 100 million yen from the Sagawa Kyubin Trucking Network, a conglomerate at the center of a scandal involving gangsters, politicians and money.

Hosokawa described the 100 million yen as a loan but legislators of the opposition Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) said they suspect it is an unreported political donation.

The opposition camp has also demanded summoning Hosokawa's former Financial Secretary Masatoshi Miyama to testify in the Diet on allegations that Hosokawa distributed the money in 1982 to Kumamoto Prefectural Assembly legislators during his campaign to secure the governorship of the prefecture. Hosokawa has rejected the demand to have Miyama testify.

Meanwhile, the premier's coalition partners scrambled to defend him Wednesday morning.

Kozo Watanabe, a Shinseito leader, told reporters, "Whether it is a lawmaker or cabinet minister, it can happen that a person develops a desire to resign when the person is going through difficult times."

"I think his remarks were carelessly uttered," Watanabe said. Shinseito is a key member of the seven-party ruling coalition.

Watanabe also told reporters, "I believe the prime minister has not renounced his determination to continue to live up to his prime ministerial duties."

The reported resignation remarks "were a mere happening whose repercussions will fade away in a day," Watanabe said.

Watanabe said he contacted Hosokawa by telephone Tuesday night to ask him about his reported resignation remark. Watanabe quoted Hosokawa as telling him, "It puzzles me why it has caused such a stir. I do not have any desire to do so."

Social Democratic Party (SDP) Chairman Tomiichi Murayama told reporters, "The prime minister denied that he made such remarks. We really have to take his denial at face value. He has demonstrated his desire to exercise his power."

Murayama also denied that the reported remark will affect the political situation.

Another senior SDP official, however, said of the premier's reported remarks, "Without question, the premier has lost his nerve." The SDP is the largest coalition party.

A senior official of new party Sakigake, also a coalition partner, said, "Whether the premier made that statement or not, he will not be able to revive his fortunes. The political situation has become fluid."

Yokohama Mayor Takahide Reelected 3 Apr

OW0304135394 Tokyo KYODO in English 1315 GMT 3 Apr 94

[Text] Yokohama, April 3 KYODO—Yokohama Mayor Hidenobu Takahide won his second four-year term Sunday [3 April], beating two other candidates. Takahide, 64, was backed by the Liberal Democratic Party, the Social Democratic Party, Shinseito [Japan Renewal Party], Komeito [Clean Government Party] and the Democratic Socialist Party.

The two other candidates were Takashi Nomura, 40, a former Home Affairs Ministry official, and Toshihiko Izu, 67, a professor emeritus of Yokohama City University. Nomura was supported by new party Sakigake [Harbinger] and the United Social Democratic Party, while Izu was backed by the Japanese Communist Party.

The election administration committee said turnout was a record low 32.37 percent. The previous record low was 34.32 percent four years ago.

With 59 percent of the votes counted, Takahide garnered 245,500 votes, while Nomura collected 132,500 and Izu 107,000.

Ibaraki Governor Said To Receive Illegal Money

OW0604125794 Tokyo KYODO in English 1232 GMT 6 Apr 94

[Text] Mito, April 6 KYODO—Ibaraki Gov. Masaru Hashimoto received more shady political donations during the election campaign last September in addition to the one already revealed, well-placed sources said Wednesday [6 April]. Hashimoto received a total of 1.05 million yen from a surveying company and the president of a construction firm, both in Ibaraki Prefecture, which had obtained contracts from the prefecture.

Hashimoto was criticized at the prefectural assembly last month for receiving 1.5 million yen from Sumitomo Heavy Industries Ltd., which was involved in a bribery scandal concerning the garbage disposal facilities in Tsukuba.

The Sumitomo contribution was suspected to be illegal since the Tokyo-based company was a contractor for the prefecture's public works projects. Hashimoto later donated 1.5 million yen to a public organization and revised his report on political funds during the election campaign.

According to an investigation by the prefecture, Hashimoto received 50,000 yen from the Ibaraki surveying firm, which received contracts from the prefecture. He also received a contribution of 1 million yen from a

construction company president, but this was apparently not illegal because it was made by an individual.

Hashimoto said it was a "simple, elementary mistake," and has already revised the declarations concerning the two donations in his campaign financial report.

Hashimoto was elected governor last September to succeed Fujio Takeuchi, who was indicted on charges of taking bribes from Hazama Corp., a major construction firm.

Hayami Comments on Recovery, Stronger Yen

OW0504085394 Tokyo KYODO in English 0728 GMT 5 Apr 94

[Text] Tokyo, April 5 KYODO—The head of the influential business leaders' group expressed his optimistic outlook on the economy Tuesday [5 April], saying it is heading for a steady recovery.

"Economic indicators are increasingly showing the evidence (that the economy is on the rise) and corporate sentiment is gradually improving," said Masaru Hayami, chairman of the Japan Association of Corporate Executives (Keizai Doyukai), at a regular news conference. But Hayami, calling the yen's advance against the U.S. dollar "excessive," said, "the current dollar-yen level will have an adverse effect on export-oriented companies."

"The U.S. Administration apparently hopes the yen will post a further gain in the face of a 'triple' decline of stocks, bonds and dollars," Hayami said.

Fujii: Economy in 'Extremely Delicate Stage'

OW0604095494 Tokyo KYODO in English 0939 GMT 6 Apr 94

[Text] Tokyo, April 6 KYODO—The state of Japan's economy remains mixed with good signs and bad, and has entered an "extremely delicate" stage, Finance Minister Hirohisa Fujii said Wednesday [6 April]. Economic indicators have been patchy and the experts are split in their views, Fujii told a regular evening press meeting.

After describing the current state of the economy as "extremely delicate," he reiterated the importance now of steadily implementing the 15.25 trillion yen economic stimulus package launched in February. Fujii made the comments after Bank of Japan Governor Yasushi Mieno virtually declared an end to the three-year recession at an earlier news conference, saying the economy is gradually showing signs of bottoming out.

Considering a full-fledged tax reform to be enacted by the end of the year, Fujii said the coalition government's basic policy is unchanged from the aborted "National Welfare Tax" plan announced by Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa. The plan called for a permanent income tax cut and an offsetting 7 percent welfare tax to replace the current 3 percent consumption tax.

A tax reform panel of the coalition parties reportedly decided at Wednesday's meeting to compile an outline in late June. Japan promised in its March market-opening package it would reveal the details in June.

The Social Democratic Party, which strongly rejected the welfare tax plan and forced Hosokawa to drop it, indicated in its policy report Tuesday it would accept a consumption tax hike.

Panel Examines Ways To Finance Income Tax Cuts

OW0404132394 Tokyo KYODO in English 1218 GMT 4 Apr 94

[Text] Tokyo, April 4 KYODO—A government advisory panel on tax affairs is poised to offer several options on how to finance income tax cuts beyond next year, sources close to the panel said Monday [4 April]. These options include a rise in the consumption tax rate, a new tax on returns from gambling and a cut in tax-free corporate reserves set aside for bad loans, they said.

These tax increase proposals will be detailed in a report to be presented by the Tax Commission to Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa by the end of June, they said.

In an interim report submitted last November, the Tax Commission proposed raising the consumption tax rate, but stopped short of making a proposal on how much.

The sources said the final report may offer three proposals on the size of the tax rate increase—"big," "medium," and "small."

The issue of how to finance income tax cuts and how to reform the tax system in the face of the aging of Japan's population have been in the spotlight for months as Hosokawa failed to sell a plan to introduce a new welfare tax.

Agency Accepts No New Firms as Rice Importers

OW0104130294 Tokyo KYODO in English 1205 GMT 1 Apr 94

[Text] Tokyo, April 1 KYODO—The Food Agency on Friday [1 April] retained 20 trading companies as government-designated rice importers for fiscal 1994, turning down applications from other firms to become such agents, agency officials said.

The Agency also retained 26 companies as government-designated importers of wheat, barley and rye for the year that started Friday, they said. It was the first time in nearly a quarter of a century that the Agency accepted applications from firms other than designated importers to enter the rice import business. However, it approved none of the applications.

Industry sources said a dozen nondesignated companies filed applications following Japan's agreement in December at the Uruguay Round of global trade talks to partially open its rice market. Under the designated

agent system, established in 1957 when Japan was importing rice, the government imports the grain but consigns the actual importing to approved trading companies.

Ministry Report Urges More Stable Rice Supply

*OW0204104394 Tokyo KYODO in English 0933 GMT
2 Apr 94*

[Text] Tokyo, April 2 KYODO—Japan has been urged to enhance its efforts to secure a stable rice supply in the wake of a multilateral agreement to open agriculture markets, according to a draft of the annual government report on farming obtained by Kyodo News Service on Saturday [2 April]. The white paper on agriculture for fiscal 1993, to be submitted to a cabinet approval on April 12, has been drafted by the Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Ministry.

Japan has accepted a partial opening of the long-closed market of the staple food by allowing minimum access to the market from 1995 under an accord to be signed by a ministerial meeting of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) in Marrakech, Morocco, in the middle of this month.

Maintaining its stance that a major rice supply depends on domestic production, the annual paper said that, to secure a stable rice supply, a flexible mixture of imports and inventories is needed. Japan has decided to import 2 million tons of rice from Thailand, the United States, China and Australia because of a shortage as a result of last year's rainy and cool summer.

The paper said damage on farm products like rice and vegetables reached a record high 1.3 trillion yen, having serious adverse effects on farmers' households and Japanese consumers.

Report Recommends Weakened Product Liability Law

*OW0404132294 Tokyo KYODO in English 1158 GMT
4 Apr 94*

[Text] Tokyo, April 4 KYODO—Japan's product liability law will not incorporate a provision requiring consumers simply to prove that damage from defective products was caused by their normal use when they seek damage, under a report approved Monday [4 April] by a ruling coalition task force. Consumer groups have been pressing for the controversial provision as a way to fight court battles over damage from defective products.

The report instead calls for a rule allowing manufacturers to be free from responsibility for damage caused by defective products if they prove that such defects were not foreseeable at the time of development.

Among other proposals, the report rejected a request from the Health and Welfare Ministry that blood products be exempt from the law for the sake of stable supply. The proposals are roughly in line with a report presented

last December by the Social Policy Council, an advisory panel to the prime minister.

Government officials said they intend to submit a bill on product liability on the basis of the latest proposal by the end of April.

Hosokawa Supports Civil Servant Pay Raises

*OW0404134194 Tokyo KYODO in English 1300 GMT
4 Apr 94*

[Text] Tokyo, April 4 KYODO—Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa said Monday [4 April] he will do his utmost to put into force a recommendation by the national personnel authority to raise civil servants' salaries. Hosokawa made the remarks during a meeting at his official residence with labor unions' leader Akira Yamagishi.

Yamagishi, head of the Japanese Trade Union Confederation (Rengo), urged the government to raise public servants' salaries fully in accordance with the recommendation. "If a recommendation is offered, I will respect it and make utmost efforts to realize it at an early date," Hosokawa said.

The premier was also positive about the idea of granting Japanese firefighters the right to organize and engage in labor movements. Among industrialized nations, only Japan has refused to grant its firefighters such a right.

Labor Minister Chikara Sakaguchi, who also attended the meeting, proposed the establishment of a new consulting body with representatives of the government, labor unions and employers to exchange views on promoting employment.

Yamagishi invited Hosokawa to a Rengo-sponsored "May Day" assembly on May 1 as the government representative.

'Discount Race' Intensifies in Steel Industry

*OW0104104594 Tokyo KYODO in English 0917 GMT
1 Apr 94*

[Text] Tokyo, April 1 KYODO—A discount race is intensifying in the recession-plagued steel industry as Tokyo Steel Mfg. Co., Japan's top electric furnace steelmaker, announced plans this week to lower prices of H-beam steel for construction firms.

Nippon Steel Corp., the world's largest steel manufacturer, and other major blast furnace steelmakers have joined Tokyo Steel in cutting prices of H-beam steel for construction firms to make up for slumping demand from automobile and electric appliance industries. Tokyo Steel's decision was regarded as a challenge to blast furnace steelmakers in anticipation of growth in demand for H-beam steel for public works projects, industry sources said.

The company earlier said it will join four major blast furnace steelmakers in marketing steel sheet piles for the construction industry.

Tokyo steel said it will slash prices of H-beam steel to 33,000 yen per ton from 40,000 yen. It also said it plans to sell steel sheet-piles at 55,000 yen per ton, far below the present average price of around 100,000 yen.

The company has opened new branches in Nagoya, Fukuoka, Hiroshima and Takamatsu to step up sales of steel products for the construction industry.

Power Consumption Rose 3.4 Percent in Feb

OW0504064994 Tokyo KYODO in English 0603 GMT 5 Apr 94

[Text] Tokyo, April 5 KYODO—Japan's electric power consumption in February increased 3.4 percent from a year earlier to 68.9 billion kilowatt-hours, the Ministry of International Trade and Industry said Tuesday [5 April].

Power consumption for nonindustrial use rose 6.9 percent to 33.6 billion kilowatt-hours, while that for industrial use edged up 0.2 percent to 35.3 billion kilowatt-hours, the ministry said in a preliminary report.

Of the nonindustrial consumption, household use grew a marked 7.2 percent thanks to lower temperatures from a year before during the reporting month, while use at office buildings climbed 7.5 percent.

Large-lot power consumption for industrial use decreased 0.9 percent for the eighth straight month of declines from a year earlier. The slack demand reflected the long-stagnant business activity in the materials sector and sluggish demand from the machinery industry, MITI said.

North Korea

CPRF Statement Denounces Patriot Deployment

SK0604001494 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 2206 GMT 5 Apr 94

[Text] A spokesman of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland [CPRF] issued a statement on the grave situation that has arrived [torachada] on the Korean peninsula in which a nuclear war may break out due to the reckless [mubunbyolhan] war provocation moves of the United States and the South Korean puppet clique.

The statement issued by the CPRF spokesman:

Due to the reckless war provocation moves of the United States and the South Korean puppet clique, an extremely grave [kukhi omjunghan] situation has arrived on the Korean peninsula in which a nuclear war may break out.

As is well-known, the United States unilaterally reneged on its agreement to hold the third stage of DPRK-U.S. talks and is stepping up arms pressure on us.

On 29 March, the U.S. Defense Department deployed 48 launching pads for Patriot missiles and a missile unit of some 400 personnel to South Korea from Texas. In addition, saying that it will resume the Team Spirit joint military exercise, which was agreed to be suspended, the United States ordered Carl Vinson, an atomic aircraft carrier, to depart a naval base in Yokoska and to deploy near the Korean peninsula; and maintained a U.S. naval fleet of 30 ships, including two task forces of aircraft carriers, in advance areas of our waters so they can reach our area within 24 hours.

The South Korean authorities ruptured the working delegates' contact for the exchange of special envoys, which was arranged with much effort, and officially asked the United States to introduce Patriot missiles, which the whole world rebuffed. Worse still, it is openly instigating a war by disclosing a new Northward invasion plan called the New Operation Plan 5027, which was secret until now.

The CPRF brands aggressive arms buildup and war provocation moves of the U.S. and South Korean bellicose quarters as a heinous criminal act to disturb the peace and security of the Korean peninsula and Asia and plunge the Korean nation into a new nuclear war holocaust, and strongly denounces this.

The U.S. and South Korean bellicose quarters rave that the Patriot missiles are so-called preventive weapons and so forth in an attempt to hide their aggressive intent and to justify the maneuvers for its arrangement. This is nothing but a foolish scheme.

Modern war is three-dimensional—staged in the sky, on the ground, and in the sea—attack and defense are not separated. Patriot missiles are ultra-modern weapons that can also be used for an attack. Considering the fact that the Patriot missiles can easily strike any target or object on the Korean peninsula, which is not that big, it is needless to say that its deployment is dangerous.

Today, the United States is openly bringing nuclear weapons into South Korea and scheming to continue nuclear war exercises. This indicates that it seek solutions to the issue not through negotiation but through strength, unilaterally reneging on its promise to refrain from threatening the DPRK with nuclear weapons, which was stipulated in the DPRK-U.S. joint statement. Also, the U.S. imperialists are massively bringing modern warfare equipment into South Korea. This is a very ill-boding [simsangchianun] military move that can only be seen on the night before a war.

What should not be overlooked is that the South Korean ruling bunch is coming out as a shock brigade for an anti-republic hostile policy of outside forces to crush fellow countrymen.

The South Korean puppets' frenzied maneuvers to crush fellow countrymen by continually bringing in U.S. nuclear weapons and by depending on strength of outside forces are antinational crimes that can be perpetrated only by the flunkeyist nation-selling traitors [sadae maeguk yokchokdul] who do not have even a slight degree of a sense of national independence. Their maneuvers are an intolerable traitorous act that unilaterally destroyed the North-South denuclearization declaration on the agreement not to produce, not to introduce, and not to possess nuclear weapons—which reduced the declaration to wastepaper.

Today DPRK-U.S. talks, which can resolve a series of problems including the nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula through negotiations, were ruptured [kyollyol] and the nation's situation has been strained to an extreme pitch. This is because of flunkeyist nation-selling maneuvers of such crooked politicians as the traitor Kim Yong-sam who has no independent idea [chugyon] and philosophy for the nation.

The modern history of our nation illustrates that when the flunkeyists without the spirit for national independence grasp power of the nation and abuse it, the nation was reduced to an arena of competition by outside forces, and the people could not avoid the situation of homeless, ruined people.

The U.S. imperialists ignited the war of aggression in Korea in the early 1950's and brought their 15 follower nations, and as the result of this, the lands of our fatherland were infringed upon by outside aggressor forces and our people were enforced to suffer miserable war disasters. This was attributed to flunkeyist nation-selling acts committed by such a pro-U.S. flunkeyist nation-seller as Syngman Rhee in South Korea.

The traitor Kim Yong-sam, the most vicious outside force-reliant flunkeyist nation-seller of all successive ruling bunches in South Korea, has no real power nor ability. Nevertheless, he continually and wildly ran amok in an attempt to interfere in negotiations between us and the United States, thus laying obstacles to DPRK-U.S. talks.

The Kim Yong-sam group ruptured the working-level contact by putting forward the exchange of North-South special envoys as a precondition for the third round of DPRK-U.S. talks. It is no secret that this proceeded from insidious political aims to apply the brakes on DPRK-U.S. talks.

Therefore, to ease the strained situation prevailing in our country and to seek a precise method for a solution to problems, the U.S. hostile policy against the DPRK must be altered and such flunkeyist nation-sellers like traitor Kim Yong-sam must be removed from power in South Korea, and the democratic reunification forces— independent forces of the nation—who treasure sovereignty of our fellow countrymen should grasp power.

People from all walks of life in South Korea should oppose and reject the nuclear war policy and arms buildup maneuvers of the United States and the South Korean bellicose elements, including deployment of Patriot missiles, and should more fiercely raise the flames of anti-U.S., antiwar, antinuclear, and anti-Kim Yong-sam struggle.

The United States and the South Korean puppets cannot frighten our people, who are firmly rallied behind the party and the leader with single-hearted unity, with any military threat, nor can they crush popular mass-centered socialism of our own style. They should correctly realize this and should not run recklessly.

If the bellicose quarters in the United States and South Korea bring Patriot missiles to South Korea and advance along the road of war at last in defiance of strong opposition and rejection of the people at home and abroad, they will have to pay dearly for this.

[Date] 5 April 1994

Pyongyang

Hanminjon Publishes Declaration on Situation

*SK0304085994 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0834
GMT 3 Apr 94*

[Text] Pyongyang, April 3 (KCNA)—The Central Committee of the South Korean National Democratic Front (Hanminjon) published a declaration on the situation on March 29 denouncing the undisguised nuclear racket and intensified adventurous aggressive and belligerent moves of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, according to the Seoul-based radio Voice of National Salvation.

"It is none other than the pro-American traitor Kim Yong-sam wearing a 'civilian' veil that has brought a disaster to the nation," it said, and went on:

"The nation has to decide on whether it will undergo a war disaster with Kim Yong-sam left alone or will win peace with him removed."

The declaration called on all the patriotic people who love the country and the nation to staunchly join in the nationwide struggle for overthrowing the Kim Yong-sam traitorous clique.

It further said:

"The nuclear racket kicked up by the United States is a plot to stifle socialism on the globe from the ideological point of view, a trick to manage third world countries like slaves with a whip of the nuclear power from the political point of view and a scheme to realise its new idea of putting priority to Asia and 'neoglobalism' with our nation as the hostage of a nuclear war from the strategic point of view."

It called on all the fellow countrymen to rise up in the nationwide struggle for thwarting the U.S. nuclear racket and war provocation moves against the North.

Chongnyon Denounces U.S. 'War Provocation'

SK0304085894 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0824 GMT 3 Apr 94

[Text] Tokyo, April 2 (KNS-KCNA)—A central meeting of Korean residents in Japan was held in Tokyo Saturday to denounce the nuclear war provocation moves of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique and open the way of peace and reunification of the country.

In his speech first Vice-chairman of the Central Standing Committee of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon) Yi Chin-kyu condemned the Kim Yong-sam puppet clique for entreating the United States to restart the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises, desperately trying to introduce Patriot missiles into South Korea and openly inciting war fever, by opening to the public even a new war plan against the North dubbed "New Operation Plan No. 5027". He branded these moves of the puppet clique as a treacherous act against the 5,000-year-long history of the nation and a crime which can be committed only by the enemy of peace and reunification.

He said:

"The United States, which totally reversed the DPRK-U.S. agreed conclusions at the New York contact and unilaterally broke up the third round of the DPRK-U.S. talks, is now scheming to unleash another war, while crying for 'sanctions' and 'blockade.' This fully shows that it is still watching for a chance to provoke a new war in Korea."

He strongly demanded that the Japanese authorities no longer join the United States and the South Korean puppet clique in their nuclear war provocation moves but promptly renounce the hostile policy toward the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and Chongnyon.

Solidarity speeches were made by Japanese public figures and indignation speeches by Chongnyon officials at the meeting.

ROK Diplomatic Maneuvers Criticized

SK0604101694 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1006 GMT 6 Apr 94

["Mean Solicitation Diplomacy To Stifle Fellow Countrymen"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, April 6 (KCNA)—The South Korean puppet foreign minister, Han Sung-chu, flew to the United States recently and discussed "additional inspection" and "sanctions" against the North with U.S. high-placed officials. On April 3 during his stay in Japan, he

requested Japanese Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa and Foreign Minister Tsutomu Hata to "take phased economic sanctions".

This solicitation diplomacy is a dastardly act of the special-class flunkeyist traitor who does not have an iota of the spirit of national independence and is hell bent on harming fellow countrymen by clinging to the coattails of the U.S. and Japanese masters.

"Additional inspection" claimed by Han Sung-chu during his tour of the United States and Japan is a nonsense which cannot work with anyone.

The DPRK which is in a special position after temporarily suspending the effectuation of its declared withdrawal from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty is not obliged to undergo the agency's full inspection pursuant to the safeguards agreement and it has never agreed on this with the United States and the International Atomic Energy Agency.

Han Sung-chu's vociferation about "additional inspection" cannot be contrived otherwise than a deliberate act motivated by a sinister purpose to expand the scope of partiality of the agency and thus render the situation more complicated.

The South Korean puppet clique must act with discretion, clearly knowing that their criminal attempt to isolate and stifle the DPRK will eventually lead them to destruction.

ROK 'Military' Ties to Japan Condemned

SK0504044494 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0436 GMT 5 Apr 94

[Text] Pyongyang, April 5 (KCNA)—Yi Pyong-tae, "defence minister" of South Korea, will reportedly fly to Japan on April 25 for talks with his counterpart in Japan, at which he will discuss full-scale "military exchange" with Japan.

Earlier, while on a trip to Japan, the traitor Kim Yong-sam had discussed the "joint counteraction" with senior brasshats of Japan over the fictitious "nuclear issue" of the DPRK.

The facts prove once again that the Kim Yong-sam group is the enemy of the nation who does not hesitate to bring a nuclear holocaust upon the nation, putting spurs on the establishment of a criminal "international cooperation system" in collusion with outside forces.

But their act is as foolish as bumping one's head against a rock.

The Kim Yong-sam group which is seeking to prolong its dirty remaining days with the help of outside forces will be punished by the nation.

The Japanese reactionaries must stop maneuvering against the DPRK in a conspiracy with the foolish Kim Yong-sam group and act with discretion.

Reunification Groups Meet in Tokyo, Charge U.S.
SK0404081394 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0542
GMT 4 Apr 94

[Text] Tokyo, April 2 [date as received] (KNS-KCNA)—An emergency meeting was held in Tokyo on March 28 with regard to the situation of the Korean peninsula.

Present at the meeting were Secretary General of the Japan Committee for Supporting the Independent and Peaceful Reunification of Korea Hiroshi Wakabayashi, chairman of the Japan-Korea Association of Scientific and Educational exchange Kiyoo Nakakoji, honorary professor of Rikkyo University Yasusaburo Hoshino and other Japanese figures and Tokyo citizens, more than 200 in all.

In his lecture at the meeting, Prof. Yashuhiro Maeda of Kitakyushu University said the Democratic People's Republic of Korea did not want a war and dealt with the United States on an independent principle. He charged that the United States was encouraging the Japanese and South Korean authorities to intensify the moves to isolate the DPRK.

A resolution was adopted at the meeting.

Noting that the demand of the International Atomic Energy Agency in the course of its recent inspection was a deliberate interference in socialist Korea, it said it resulted in creating a touch-and-go situation on the Korean peninsula which might lead to a war any time.

It stressed that as long as the United States sought "world supremacy by strength," an anachronistic design, military tensions would be increased and the danger of a war would persist in the world. It urged the United States to renounce "the policy of strength."

The resolution demanded that the Hosokawa government, instead of following the United States, make an apology for Japan's colonial domination and war of aggression, renounce its hostile policy toward the DPRK, show all sincerity in liquidating the consequences of its colonial domination and make efforts for the resumption of the Japan-DPRK negotiation for the progress of the normalization of diplomatic relations between the two countries on the basis of the joint declaration signed by the Workers' Party of Korea, the Liberal Democratic Party and the Social-Democratic Party of Japan.

Amnesty International Focuses on ROK Security Law

SK0304084894 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0800
GMT 3 Apr 94

[Text] Pyongyang, April 3 (KCNA)—The Amnesty International in a statement March 31 reportedly expressed apprehensions over the human rights abuses in South Korea and urged the South Korean authorities

to release all the prisoners of conscience and scrap the "National Security Law" (NSL).

It demanded the release of two members of the opera troupe "Huimangsae" (Birds of Hope) and members of the Fellowship Society for Modern Philosophy and others who had been arrested some time ago, concluding that they were conscientious prisoners detained for demanding the freedom of expression.

Chondoist Party Supports ROK Opposition Visit
SK0404233394 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1510
GMT 4 Apr 94

[Text] Pyongyang, April 4 (KCNA)—The spokesman for the Central Committee of the Chondoist Chongu Party, in a statement today, demanded that the Pyongyang trip of Yi Ki-taek, president of the South Korean Democratic Party, be realised unconditionally without any hindrance.

Recalling that Yi Ki-taek expressed more than once his wish to visit Pyongyang, the spokesman said:

"Should he visit Pyongyang and discuss the outstanding issues of the nation including the problem of national reunification and jointly seek a solution, a new progress will, no doubt, be made in the denuclearisation of the Korean peninsula and the development of the North-South relations.

"The Kim Yong-sam puppet clique, however, are blocking the Pyongyang trip of the opposition political figure, arguing that he 'might fall a prey to the strategy of the North.' This is a very improper act."

The spokesman expressed the belief that Yi Ki-taek would visit Pyongyang in a short time and do a good work for the nation.

ROK Opposition Opposes GATT Trade Accord
SK0104105994 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1013
GMT 1 Apr 94

[Text] Pyongyang, April 1 (KCNA)—The South Korean opposition Democratic Party on March 29 demanded a hearing of the National Assembly to lay bare the injustice of the "Uruguay Round negotiations" as part of the struggle against the "parliamentary ratification" of the farm market opening, according to a Radio report from Seoul.

The Democratic Party inaugurated the "Committee of the Struggle To Check Ratification of Uruguay Round Accord" with democratic members of the "National Assembly" and declared it would convert the party system into an emergency system to check the "parliamentary ratification" of the farm market opening.

ROK Party Acts Against Market Opening

*SK0204105194 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1006
GMT 2 Apr 94*

[Text] Pyongyang, April 2 (KCNA)—The South Korean opposition Democratic Party decided to launch into an action in solidarity with broad dissident forces and hold a signature campaign and forums across South Korea to check "a parliamentary ratification" of the farm market opening, a Seoul-based radio report said.

ROK Students Protest Arms Sales, Trade Accord

*SK0604044494 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0435
GMT 6 Apr 94*

[Text] Pyongyang, April 6 (KCNA)—More than two thousand students belonging to the South Korean Federation of General Student Councils (Hanchongnyon) Tuesday [5 April] held a rally in the amphitheatre of Konkuk University before going over to an anti-U.S., anti-"government" demonstration to check the "parliamentary ratification" of the "Uruguay Round accord fulfilment schedule", urge renegotiation and protest the U.S. arms sale pressure, according to a report from Seoul.

In a resolution they adopted, the students expressed indignation at the fact that the traitorous Kim Yong-sam clique was inflicting colossal losses upon the people by opening the farm market wider and voiced strong opposition to the "parliamentary ratification" of the "fulfilment schedule" slated for April 12.

At the end of the rally they took to the streets and had a fierce clash with the riot police.

The demonstrators were carrying a large streamer reading "No U.S. arms sales" and shouting: "We urge renegotiation on basic farm products".

On the same day, more than one thousand students held a rally in demand of the boycott of the Uruguay Round accord in the Jongmyo Park, Seoul, and then staged a street demonstration.

Ninth Supreme People's Assembly Opens 6 Apr**Agenda Adopted**

*SK0604043394 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0426
GMT 6 Apr 94*

[Text] Pyongyang, April 6 (KCNA)—The seventh session of the Ninth Supreme People's Assembly [SPA] of the DPRK opened here today.

The great leader President Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il were present at the session.

The following agenda was adopted:

1. On successfully fulfilling the tasks of socialist economic construction in the period of adjustment set forth by the Workers' Party of Korea.

2. On the review of the performance of the state budget of the DPRK for 1993 and the state budget for 1994.

3. On the endorsement of the laws adopted by the DPRK SPA Standing Committee during the recess of the SPA.

Deputy Kang Song-san, premier of the Administration Council, made a report on the first item of the agenda.

KYODO Reports on Opening

*OW0604041794 Tokyo KYODO in English 0353 GMT
6 Apr 94*

[Text] Tokyo, April 6 KYODO—The North Korean parliament convened Wednesday [6 April] and adopted three bills, including the budget for fiscal 1994, Korea News Service reported.

The Tokyo-based news service, monitoring a KOREAN CENTRAL NEWS AGENCY [KCNA] dispatch, said the Seventh Meeting of the Ninth Supreme People's Assembly was convened with North Korean President Kim Il-song, and his son and heir apparent Kim Chong-il in attendance.

The new legislation included the execution of a socialist economic readjustment period ordered in December by the Korean Workers Party and the approval of laws adopted by the assembly's Standing Committee during the assembly's absence.

The KCNA report made no mention of any policy initiatives as international demands mount for Pyongyang to comply with nuclear safeguards inspections and calls for economic sanctions against North Korea continue to grow.

The report also gave no indication of any change in the North Korean leadership. Speculation has grown over when the dynastic succession in Pyongyang may occur.

KCNA Details Session

*SK0604111394 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1049
GMT 6 Apr 94*

[Text] Pyongyang, April 6 (KCNA)—The Seventh Session of the Ninth Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea opened at the Mansudae Assembly Hall here today.

Deputies to the Supreme People's Assembly were present at the session.

Attending the session as observers were officials of party and power bodies, administrative and economic organs and public organizations and men of science, education, culture and art, public health, and the press.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, appeared on the platform.

Comrade Kim Chong-il, chairman of the National Defence Commission of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and supreme commander of the Korean People's Army, stepped on to the platform.

Taking the platform were also O Chin-u, presidium member of the Political Bureau of the C.C. [Central Committee], the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] and minister of People's Armed Forces; Yi Chong-ok, Pak Song-chol and Kim Yong-chu, Politburo members of the WPK Central Committee and vice-presidents; Kim Pyong-sik, chairman of the C.C., the Korean Social Democratic Party and vice-president; Kang Song-san, Politburo member of the C.C., the WPK and premier of the Administration Council; and other party and state cadres and members of the Central People's Committee and the SPA Standing Committee.

The following agenda was adopted at the session:

1. On successfully fulfilling the tasks of socialist economic construction in the period of adjustment set forth by the Workers' Party of Korea
2. On the review of the performance of the state budget of the DPRK for 1993 and the state budget for 1994
3. On the endorsement of the laws adopted by the DPRK SPA Standing Committee during the recess of the SPA.

Deputy Kang Song-san made a report on the first agenda item.

Then followed speeches on it.

The speakers noted that at the 21st plenary meeting of the sixth Central Committee of the WPK President Kim Il-song, with a deep penetration into the prevailing situation and the practical demand of socialist construction in the country, set the coming three years (1994-1996) as a period of adjustment in socialist economic construction and put forward a strategic policy whereby to implement the agriculture-first, light industry-first and foreign trade-first policies, give definite precedence to coal and power industry and railway transport, the preceding sectors of the national economy, and continue to develop the metal industry in this period.

They stressed that this revolutionary economic strategy of the party represents the unshakable will of the party to consolidate the foundations of the independent national economy and lift the living standard of the people as a whole to a higher stage by smashing the anti-DPRK moves of the imperialists and the reactionaries and effecting a revolutionary turn in socialist economic construction, and thus push ahead the socialist cause of *chuche*.

The session continues.

Premier's Address Highlighted

SK0604112094 *Pyongyang KCNA in English 1056*
GMT 6 Apr 94

["Tasks of Socialist Economic Construction in Adjustment Period Discussed at SPA Session"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, April 6 (KCNA)—The 7th Session of the Ninth Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK opened here is discussing the first item on the agenda "On Successfully Fulfilling the Tasks of Socialist Economic Construction in the Period of Adjustment Set Forth by the Workers' Party of Korea".

In his report Deputy Kang Song-san, premier of the Administration Council, recalled that the 21st plenary meeting of the sixth Central Committee of the WPK held in December last year reviewed the fulfillment of the third seven-year plan and set a three-year period of adjustment, putting forward a economic strategy, on the basis of a scientific analysis of the current situation and the present condition of socialist economic construction in the country.

The tasks of socialist economic construction in the adjustment period, the reporter said, is to thoroughly implement the agriculture-first, light industry-first and foreign trade-first policies, give definite precedence to the coal and power industries and railway transport, which must advance ahead of the other sectors of the national economy, and continue to develop the metal industry.

The revolutionary economic strategy for the period of adjustment in socialist economic construction carries the unshakable determination and will of the Workers' Party of Korea to radically improve the people's living standard in the next few years and develop the national economy to an economy strong in independence which can walk on its own feet, remaining unshaken under any circumstances, he said.

Turning to the tasks of socialist economic construction in the period of adjustment, the reporter said:

The per hectare yield in paddy and non-paddy fields should be raised to above 8 tons on an average and gradually to more than 10 tons to produce 15 million tons of grain in the near future.

Textile output will be boosted 20 percent or more and chemical fibre and synthetic resin more than 10 percent in the period of adjustment.

We should expand the production bases of export commodities, broaden economic ties with countries which have good relations with our country and further develop trade and economic dealings with Southeast Asian countries which are within easy reach geographically.

Coal and power output and railway freight turnover should be increased over 30 percent respectively in the adjustment period.

Leaders Attend Opening Session

SK0604082794 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0600 GMT 6 Apr 94

[Excerpt] Upholding the militant tasks presented by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song in his New Year's address and the decision of the 21st plenary session of the sixth party Central Committee, and demonstrating the invincible might of socialism of our own style, all the people of the whole country are now vigorously accelerating the general onward march of socialism to make a new revolutionary change in socialist construction with single-hearted unity around the party and the leader. The seventh session of the Ninth Supreme People's Assembly [SPA] of the DPRK was held at Mansudae Assembly Hall on the morning of 6 April in this exciting [kyok-tongjogin] environment.

Delegates to the SPA were present at the session. Functionaries of party, government, administrative, economic, and social organizations; and functionaries of the science, educational, cultural, art, public health, publishing, and press sectors were also in the session's audience.

Comrade Kim Il-song, DPRK president and the great leader of our party and people, appeared on the rostrum.

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, chairman of the DPRK National Defense Committee and supreme commander of the Korean People's Army [KPA], appeared on the rostrum.

Comrade O Chin-u, member of the Presidium of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] Central Committee Political Bureau and minister of the People's Armed Forces; Comrades Yi Chong-ok, Pak Song-chol, and Kim Yong-chu, members of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and vice presidents; Vice President Kim Pyong-sik, chairman of the Korea Social Democratic Party Central Committee; Comrade Kang Song-san, member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and premier of the State Administration Council [SAC]; Comrade Kim Yong-nam, member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and vice premier of the SAC; Comrade Choe Kwang, member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and chief of KPA General Staff; Comrades Kye Ung-tae, Chon Pyong-ho, and Han Song-yong, members of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and secretaries of the party Central Committee; Comrade So Yun-sok, member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and responsible secretary of the South Pyongan Provincial Party Committee as well as chairman of the South Pyongan Provincial People's Committee; Comrade Kim Chol-man, candidate member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee; Comrade Choe Tae-pok, candidate

member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and secretary of the party Central Committee; Comrade Choe Yong-nim, candidate member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and vice premier of the SAC; Comrade Hong Sok-hyong, candidate member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and chairman of the State Planning Commission; Comrade Yon Hyong-muk, candidate member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and responsible secretary of the Chagang Provincial Party Committee as well as chairman of the Chagang Provincial People's Committee; Yu Mi-yong, chairman of Chondoist Chongu Party Central Committee; members of the Central People's Committee; and members of the SPA Standing Committee also appeared on the rostrum. [passage omitted]

Military Attaches Attend Army Dance Performance

SK3103103794 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1012 GMT 31 Mar 94

[Text] Pyongyang, March 31 (KCNA)—Military attaches of foreign embassies here saw a song and dance performance given by artistes of the Korean People's Army song and dance ensemble at the February 8 House of Culture Wednesday evening.

Their performance was highly acclaimed by the audience as they well showed the noble traits and fighting spirit of the People's Army soldiers in a militant and virile representation.

Anniversary of Abolition of Tax System Marked

SK0104000594 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1533 GMT 31 Mar 94

[Text] Pyongyang, March 31 (KCNA)—A Pyongyang meeting took place at the People's Palace of Culture today to mark the 20th anniversary of the abolition of the tax system in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

As the nation's economic potential increased the great leader President Kim Il-song took steps to systematically reduce the tax burdens upon the population and saw to it that the taxes including the agricultural tax in kind were abolished by degrees. And in March, 1974, he proclaimed to the whole world a decree on totally eliminating the tax system at the 3rd meeting of the 5th Supreme People's Assembly.

Thus, the DPRK became the first tax-free country in human history.

In his report, Hong Sok-hyong, alternate Politburo member of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and chairman of the state planning commission, said the total elimination of the taxes in Korea was a brilliant crystallization of the respected leader Comrade Kim Il-song's grand strategic plan to free the Korean people who had been freed from exploitation and

oppression even from the fetters of leftovers of the old society and provide an independent and creative life for them, and another great feat performed by the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il in the course of carrying forward the revolutionary cause of *chuche* through to completion.

He said the total elimination of taxes in Korea had a great inspiring effect on the working class and other labouring masses in capitalist countries who were molested by exploitation and oppression and weighed down under exacting taxation and, through a vivid reality, showed the peoples of different countries who set about the building of a new society, freed from the imperialist colonial yoke, and the revolutionary people fighting for the rebuilding of socialism that socialism was the only way of attaining development and prosperity of the country and bringing genuine happiness to the people.

He pointed out that communist policies including the universal free medical care system, the free compulsory education system, the popular social insurance system and social security system and the food policy are in force in the DPRK now, enabling all the people to enjoy a dignified and happy life evenly in all domains of politics, the economy and culture.

He stressed the need to cherish the great national pride and honour of living in the tax-free country and defend and further exalt the Korean-style socialism.

"In order to step up the revolution and construction and defend and further glorify the socialism of our own style centred on the masses in sharp confrontation with the enemy, we must uphold the leadership of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il with loyalty," the reporter said.

The meeting was attended by Yi Chong-ok, member of the Political Bureau of the C.C. [Central Committee], WPK and vice-president, and other senior party and state officials and working people in the city.

KSDP Delegation Returns From Latin America

*SK0104110994 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1031
GMT 1 Apr 94*

[Text] Pyongyang, April 1 (KCNA)—A delegation of the Korean Social Democratic Party [KSDP] led by chairman Kim Pyong-sik today came back home after visiting Latin American countries.

The delegation was met at the airport by Vice-chairman of the Central Committee of the KSDP Kim I-hyon.

Kang Song-san Hails Burkina Faso Premier

*SK0104110794 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1014
GMT 1 Apr 94*

[Text] Pyongyang, April 1 (KCNA)—Premier of the Administration Council of the DPRK Kang Song-san

sent a message of greetings to Roch Christian Marc Kabore upon his appointment as prime minister of Burkina Faso.

Expressing the belief that the friendly and cooperative relations between the two countries would continue to strengthen and develop, the message wished him success in his work for the prosperity of the country.

Kim Il-song Sends Greetings to Guinea President

*SK0204105494 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1018
GMT 2 Apr 94*

[Text] Pyongyang, April 2 (KCNA)—President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea sent a message of greetings to Guinean President Lansana Conte on April 1 on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of the proclamation of the second Republic in Guinea.

Noting with pleasure that the friendly and cooperative relations between the two countries have been consolidated and developed continuously even under the complex situation, the message express the belief that these relations would further expand and strengthen in the future.

The message wished the president and people of Guinea greater success in their efforts for the independent development and prosperity of the country.

Kim Chong-il Sends Birthday Tables to Delegates

*SK0304085594 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0819
GMT 3 Apr 94*

[Text] Pyongyang, April 3 (KCNA)—The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il sent 60th birthday tables and birthday tables to delegates to the national conference of party cell secretaries who had greeted their birthdays during the conference.

60th birthday tables were conveyed to three delegates and birthday tables to 263 delegates on April 2.

The delegates vowed to fully prepare themselves to be ardent revolutionaries who devotedly work for the party and the leader, for the country and the people and to be standardbearers who vigorously arouse the masses in the struggle for defending and accomplishing the cause of socialism, deeply cherishing in their mind the deep love shown by Comrade Kim Chong-il.

Kim Il-song Sends Greetings to Senegal President

*SK0304085694 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0826
GMT 3 Apr 94*

[Text] Pyongyang, April 3 (KCNA)—President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea Saturday sent a message of greetings to president of the Republic of Senegal Abdou Diouf on the occasion of the 34th anniversary of the independence of Senegal.

President Kim Il-sung in the message wished the president and the people of Senegal great success in their work for the stability and prosperity of the country and expressed the conviction that the friendly and cooperative relations between the two countries would continue to develop on good terms.

Dailies Note Anniversary of Republic of Guinea

SK0304090094 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0829 GMT 3 Apr 94

[Text] Pyongyang, April 3 (KCNA)—Papers here today dedicate by-lined articles to the 10th anniversary of the proclamation of the second Republic of Guinea.

Since the proclamation of the second Republic, the Guinean people have actively striven to carve out their destiny with their own efforts, NODONG SINMUN says, and goes on:

The Guinean Government and people are making their efforts to apply the principle of self-reliance in building a new life. The Guinean Government is internally directing its attention to achieving political stability and unity of the country and externally striving to strengthen and develop the non-aligned movement.

The Korean people are sincerely rejoiced over the achievements made by the Guinean people in building a new Guinea.

Believing that the friendly and cooperative relations between the two peoples will further strengthen and develop in various fields on the basis of the idea of independence, peace and friendship, the Korean people wish the Guinean people greater success in their struggle for the development and prosperity of the country, says MINJU CHOSON.

Friendship Delegation Leaves for Belarus

SK0404105194 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1034 GMT 4 Apr 94

[Text] Pyongyang, April 4 (KCNA)—A delegation of the Korea-Belarus Friendship Association headed by the vice-chairman of the Committee for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries, Kim Yong-su, left here today by train for a visit to Belarus.

PWK Sends Greetings to Turkish Party

SK0504231894 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1513 GMT 5 Apr 94

Pyongyang, April 5 (KCNA)—The Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea today sent a message of greetings to Dogu Ferincek, chairman of the Workers' Party of Turkey (WPT), on the fifth founding anniversary of the WPT.

Expressing the belief that the relations of fraternal friendship existing between the WPK and the WPT

would grow stronger and develop in the future in accordance with the idea of independence, peace and friendship, the message wished the WPT and its chairman big success in their responsible work for the strengthening and development of the party.

Officials Honor Anniversary of Martyrs Tomb

SK0504085594 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1300 GMT 4 Apr 94

[Excerpts] A report meeting to mark the 40th anniversary of the founding of the Revolutionary Martyrs Tomb was held on the spot on the afternoon of 4 April. [passage omitted]

Comrade Pak Song-chol, member of the Political Bureau of the Workers Party of Korea (WPK) Central Committee, and vice president; Kang Sok-sun, director of the History Research Institute of the WPK Central Committee; Hwang Sun-hui, director of the Korean Revolutionary Museum; Tae Pyong-yol, director of the Memorial Hall of Victory in Fatherland Liberation War; Kim Chin-hyon, director of Mt. Taesongsan General Management Department, and other officials concerned attended the report meeting with functionaries and employees of the Office of Preservation of Revolutionary Martyrs' Tomb. [passage omitted]

Officials Attend Opening of Athletic Meeting

SK0504091094 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1310 GMT 4 Apr 94

[Excerpt] At a time when all people across the country are effecting new miracles and innovations in implementing the party's revolutionary economic strategy by cherishing a sense of boundless reverence and ardent loyalty to the great leader in the wake of the April holiday, our people's happiest day, the Mangyongdae prize-winning athletic meeting was held. An opening ceremony for the Mangyongdae prize-winning athletic meeting was held in Kim Il-sung Stadium on 4 April.

Comrade Pak Song-chol, member of the Political Bureau of the Workers' Party of Korea (WPK) Central Committee, and vice president; Comrade Kim Chu'g-nin, secretary of the WPK Central Committee; Comrade Chang Chol, vice premier of the Administration Council, and other officials concerned including Choe Yong-hae, Chu Song-il and Choe Ki-yong, attended the opening ceremony together with athletic champions, workers from all walks of life, youth, and students in the city. [passage omitted]

Officials Attend Opening of Sports Contest

SK0504045694 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0438 GMT 5 Apr 94

[Text] Pyongyang, April 5 (KCNA)—The Mangyongdae prize sports contest opened at the Kim Il-sung stadium in Pyongyang Monday.

It is traditional games held every year around the birthday of the great leader President Kim Il-song.

The nearly 50 events include field and track, basketball, volleyball, wrestling, shooting and swimming.

Present at the opening ceremony were Pak Song-chol, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea (WPK) and vice-president; Kim Chung-nin, secretary of the WPK Central Committee; and other officials concerned, working people, sportsmen and school youth in Pyongyang.

The ceremony was followed by a health Taekwon-do exhibition performance and a football game at the stadium.

O Chin-u Meets With New Cuban Ambassador

*SK0504231994 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1509
GMT 5 Apr 94*

[Text] Pyongyang, April 5 (KCNA)—O Chin-u, minister of People's Armed Forces, Tuesday met and had a conversation with Jose Ramon Rodriguez Varon, newly-appointed Cuban Ambassador E.P. to Korea, who paid a courtesy call on him.

Envoys Make Overseas Visits

SK0604053294

[Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports of visits by DPRK envoys to foreign countries that were carried on Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean [PKCB]:

"Choe Kil-yong, chairman of the Educational Committee and the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song's special envoy, toured the Damascus National Museum and Folklore Museum on 25 March. On 26 March, the special envoy met Syrian Education Minister Muhammad Ghassan al-Halabi and covered with him. On the same day, the Syrian Government arranged a banquet for the special envoy. On 28 March, the special envoy left Damascus after winding up his visit to Syria." (PKCB 1500 GMT 31 March)

"(Lopu Porutunadu Pelecinadu Nasusementu), general secretary of the Central Committee of the Popular Liberation Movement of Angola, received a Foreign Ministry delegation of our country led by Vice Foreign Minister Pak Myong-ku on 29 March." (PKCB 1500 GMT 2 April)

"Vice Foreign Minister Kim Chang-kyu, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song's special envoy, arrived in Jakarta on 1 April for a visit to Indonesia." (PKCB 1200 GMT 3 April)

"Choe Kil-yong, chairman of the Educational Committee who had visited Egypt and Syria as the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song's special envoy, returned home by train on 3 April." (PKCB 1500 GMT 3 April)

"President Sardar Farooq Ahmad Khan Leghari of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, received a government economic delegation of our country led by Vice Premier Hong Song-nam on 2 April. At the meeting, the delegation head conveyed the greetings of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il. The president expressed deep thanks and asked the delegation head to convey his sincere greetings to the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il. The president mentioned the visit to Korea by Benazir Bhutto and expressed the hope that exchanges of high-level delegations and friendly and cooperative relations expand between the two countries of Korea and Pakistan. Regarding the nuclear issue, the president said that Pakistan has always supported Korea's position." (PKCB 2300 GMT 4 April)

Social Scientists Depart for India

*SK0504223694 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1511
GMT 5 Apr 94*

[Text] Pyongyang, April 5 (KCNA)—A delegation of Korean social scientists headed by Hwang Chang-yop, secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and chairman of the Korean Social Scientists Association, left Pyongyang today to participate in the international seminar of the *chuche* idea on independence, peace and friendship scheduled in India.

It was seen off at the airport by Kim Yang-kon, vice-director of a department of the WPK Central Committee, and Shekhkholen Kipgen, Indian ambassador to Korea.

WPK Group Leaves for Greece; Arts Troupes Arrive

*SK0504231794 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1515
GMT 5 Apr 94*

[Text] Pyongyang, April 5 (KCNA)—A delegation of the Workers' Party of Korea headed by vice department director of the WPK Central Committee Pak Kyong-son left here today to participate in the Third Congress of the Panhellenic Socialist Movement of Greece.

Malaysian musicians, Mongolian art and acrobatic groups, a Bangladesh art group, a Chinese acrobatic group, a Colombian musician and Vietnamese musicians came here today to participate in the 12th April spring friendship art festival. Also arriving here today was a delegation of the Kim Chong-suk kindergarten in Dalandzadgad City, Omnogov Province, Mongolia, led by its superintendent Altantuya.

New Delhi To Host International Chuche Seminar

*SK0604045694 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0428
GMT 6 Apr 94*

[Text] Pyongyang, April 6 (KCNA)—The international *chuche* idea seminar on independence, peace and friendship will soon open in New Delhi on the occasion of the birthday of the great leader President Kim Il-song.

The seminar will be attended by political, academic and public figures and delegates of *chuche* idea study organizations from different countries and delegations and delegates of international and regional organizations.

The seminar will discuss theoretical and practical problems arising at present in the struggle of the world's progressive people to achieve independence, peace and friendship on the basis of the *chuche* idea, the guiding idea of the present era.

Symposium Held on Kim Il-song '10-Point Program'

Program Described

SK0404232394 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1521 GMT 4 Apr 94

[Text] Pyongyang, April 4 (KCNA)—A national meeting was held in Pyongyang today to observe the first anniversary of the publication of "10-point programme of the great unity of the whole nation for the Reunification of the country," a work of the great leader President Kim Il-song.

The 10-point programme worked out and published by President Kim Il-song on April 6, 1993, was adopted as a great political charter common to the nation at the Fifth Session of the Ninth Supreme People's Assembly.

The programme outlines the general purpose of great national unity for founding an independent, peaceful and neutral pan-national unified state through the great unity of the whole nation, the ideological basis of great national unity for uniting on the basis of patriotism and the spirit of national independence, and the principle of unity for promoting co-existence, co-prosperity and common interests and subordinating everything to the cause of national reunification.

The programme also comprehensively indicates practical ways for great national unity such as ending all political disputes and promoting trust and unity between the North and the South.

Kim Yong sun, secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, in his report, said that the 10-point programme, for the steadfast patriotic stand running through all its points and its fair content, serves as a most reasonable and realistic great political programme of national unity and a great charter of national reunification acceptable to all who truly love the country and the nation and want the reunification of the country, irrespective of idea and religious belief, system and political affiliation, and place of residence.

"The 10-point programme evoked the full sympathy and support not only of the entire compatriots in the North, South and overseas but also of the revolutionary people worldwide as soon as it was published, and its invincible might and vitality have been eloquently proven through practical life," he stated.

He called for rejecting the interference of outside forces and paving the way for the independent and peaceful reunification of the country with the great unity of the nation under the banner of the 10-point programme.

To hasten national reunification through concerted efforts of the whole nation, both the North and the South must firmly maintain the principle of national independence.

The South Korean authorities must relinquish the reckless confrontation and war moves, repeal the "National Security Law" hindering the nation's unity, dissolve the "Security Planning Board", stop suppressing the patriotic students and people who rose up for independence, democracy and reunification and set free, at once, all political prisoners and prisoners of conscience who are illegally detained.

The United States must discontinue its unjustifiable campaign of pressure upon the DPRK and take a proper stance for a solution to the nuclear issue of the Korean peninsula through DPRK-U.S. talks.

The United Nations Security Council must maintain a fair stand as an international organization, abandoning such unfair double standard attitude as not calling in question the United States and the South Korean authorities, its servants, increasing the danger of a nuclear war on the Korean peninsula and as turning a blind eye to the countries engaged in dangerous nuclear development under the aegis of the United States, while putting unjust pressure upon the DPRK which is conducting nuclear activities for peaceful purpose.

The patriotic democratic movement organizations in South Korea and the organizations of the National Alliance for the Country's Reunification (Pomminnyon) at home and abroad should intensify various forms of mass movement to implement the 10-point programme of the great unity of the whole nation and invigorate dialogues and contacts between the North, the South and the overseas sides.

The meeting was attended by Pak Song-chol, Politburo member of C.C. [Central Committee], the Workers' Party of Korea and vice-president, and other officials concerned.

Speakers Laud Program

SK0104053294 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0519 GMT 1 Apr 94

[Text] Pyongyang, April 1 (KCNA)—A symposium commemorating the first anniversary of the publication of "10-point programme of the great unity of the whole nation for the reunification of the country" by the great leader President Kim Il-song was held at the People's Palace of Culture Thursday with politicians, scholars and pressmen in attendance.

Present at the symposium were Kim Chung-nin, secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of

Korea, officials concerned, officials of political parties and public organisations and men of science, education and press.

Speakers at the symposium proved that the 10-point programme is a great program of independent reunification and a great charter of national unity for putting an end to the history of division and confrontation covering nearly half a century with the strength of the nation.

They said the 10-point programme is a banner of powerful unity for actively breaking the deadlock with the united strength of the nation in the grim situation in which the destiny of the nation is at stake and a great charter of unity and reunification for achieving the reunification of the country and the prosperity of the nation with the strength of the nation by uniting all the compatriots.

They said the foundation of a pan-national unified state by confederacy formula is a most reasonable goal for uniting all fellow countrymen of different classes and quarters, transcending the regional and institutional differences between the North and the South at present.

They branded the "three-phase reunification formula" of the Kim Yong-sam group as an imitation of the "formula of unification through Korean national commonwealth" brought forward by its predecessors, a proposal of division and confrontation in every aspect, which is no more than formulae of "unification of systems" and "unification by prevailing over communism".

They said the 10-point programme of the great unity of the whole nation is a program of great unity embodying the great idea of benevolent politics of President Kim Il-song, because it provides for granting special favours to those who have performed exploits for the reunification of the country and, if those who had betrayed the nation in the past, take the patriotic road, repentant of their past, for dealing with them leniently to enable them to contribute to the cause of national reunification.

Leaders Attend Symposium

SK0504070594 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1100 GMT 4 Apr 94

[Excerpt] A central report meeting to mark the first anniversary of the publication of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song's historic work, "10-point program for great unity of the whole nation for national reunification" was held at the Youth Central Hall on 4 April. Respectfully placed at the forefront of the report meeting site was a portrait of Comrade Kim Il-song, the great leader of our party and people. On the walls of the meeting site were the slogans, "Long live the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song" and "Long live the glorious Workers' Party of Korea [WPK]."

The report meeting was attended by Comrade Pak Song-chol, member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and vice president; Comrade Yang

Hyong-sop, candidate member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly [SPA]; Comrade Kim Yong-sun, secretary of the WPK Central Committee and chairman of the SPA Reunification Policy Committee; Comrade Chang Chol, vice premier of the Administration Council; Yu Mi-yong, chairman of the Central Committee of the Chondoist Chongu Party; Kang Hyong-su, responsible secretary of Pyongyang city party committee and chairman of Pyongyang City People's Committee; Yom Tae-chun, chairman of the Central Committee of the Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland; Kim Yong-ho, vice chairman of the Central Committee of the Korean Social Democratic Party; Chu Song-il, chairman of the General Federation of Trade Unions of Korea; Choe Yong-hae, chairman of the Central Committee of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea; Choe Song-suk, chairman of the Central Committee of the Union of Agricultural Working People of Korea; Pae In-chun, chairman of the North Side's Headquarters of the National Alliance for the Country's Reunification; Chong Sin-hyok, vice chairman of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland [CPRF]; Paek Nam-chun, secretary of the CPRF Secretariat; Kang Kwan-son, secretary of the Central Committee of the Korean Democratic Women's Union; Kang Yong-sop, chairman of the Central Committee of the Korean Christian Federation; Pak Tae-ho, chairman of the Central Committee of the Korean Buddhist Federation; Chang Chae-chol, chairman of the Central Committee of the Korean Catholics Federation; and Paek Hak-yon, vice chairman of Pyongyang City People's Committee, along with the working people of all strata in the city. The report meeting was attended by overseas compatriots who are now staying in the socialist fatherland. [passage omitted]

Works of President Kim Il-song Reported Abroad

SK0104110194 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1009 GMT 1 Apr 94

[Text] Pyongyang, April 1 (KCNA)—The Indian paper *INDIAN TIMES* carried the full text of "For the Ultimate Solution of the Rural Question Under the Banner of the Socialist Rural Theses", a letter sent by the great leader President Kim Il-song to a national agricultural conference.

Detailed gists of the letter were carried by the Cameroonian paper *LA VISION* and the Bulgarian paper *TRIBUNA*.

The Togolese paper *ATOPANI* and the Zairean paper *LE STANDARD* carried articles explaining his work "10-point Programme of the Great Unity of the Whole Nation for the Reunification of the Country".

Kim Il-song's Work Published in Pakistan*SK0204042894 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0405
GMT 2 Apr 94*

[Text] Pyongyang, April 2 (KCNA)—“Enhancing the Role of the Popular Masses Is the Guarantee for Victory in the Cause of Independence”, a classical work of the great leader President Kim Il-song, was brought out in booklet by the Afzal Publishing House in Pakistan on March 28 on the occasion of his birthday.

The booklet says in the preface:

His Excellency President Kim Il-song set out on the road of revolution in his early years and founded the immortal *chuche* idea, and organized and led to victory two revolutionary wars against imperialism, thus defending and exalting the nation's dignity and honour.

He has turned Korea into a powerful country, independent in politics, self-sustaining in the economy and self-reliant in national defence, and an earthly paradise for the people in a historically short span of time.

He enjoys boundless respect and reverence of the Korean people and the world people for the immortal feats and contributions he has made to the world revolution, as the most distinguished leader of the working class of the world.

Kim Il-song 'Reminiscences' Disseminated Abroad*SK0204105094 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1005
GMT 2 Apr 94*

[Text] Pyongyang, April 2 (KCNA)—“With the Century”, reminiscences of the great leader President Kim Il-song, has been widely disseminated and evoked lively responses in many countries.

Ludo Martens, chairman of the Central Committee of the Belgian Labour Party, said:

“President Kim Il-song's reminiscences ‘With the Century’ not only consummates the revolutionary history of a peerless great man but has won the hearts of people as it has rich and profound content, great attraction and vitality.

“It is a brilliant and immortal, grand revolutionary encyclopedia which leaves every reader caught up in a flood of solemn feeling.

“It is an event worthy of special record in human history that progressive mankind today has received the reminiscences consummating the history of a great man.”

H.K. Kapil, president of the society for the study of the *chuche* philosophy of Agra University in India, said the reminiscences “With the Century” is an inspiring banner that gives unswerving confidence and strength to the peoples who are fighting against imperialism and all manner of exploitation and oppression.

He said he could hardly take his eyes away from the reminiscences, attracted by the warm love of President Kim Il-song for and his trust in his revolutionary comrades and his great magnanimity, broad-mindedness and noble personality reflected in every page of it.

President Kim Il-song is, indeed, a person who descended from heaven, and his is a history of trust and love for the people, said the president.

Gumerindo Celedonio, president of Huacho National University of Peru, said:

“The reminiscences of President Kim Il-song is a most valuable asset of mankind.

“Mankind must always accept the precious truth elucidated by their great teacher as their guideline.”

Yoko Miyajima, a doctor in Aichi prefecture, Japan, said after reading the first three volumes of Part I of the reminiscences—The Anti-Japanese Revolution:

“The three volumes of the reminiscences had a far greater influence on me than my six-year school education, and I accepted it with sincerity.

“I think the reminiscences is not only a truthful history book but a textbook, because the most important question of how to fight for the national liberation is described with the words of President Kim Il-song.

“I will tell the younger generation what I have learnt from the reminiscences.”

Seminars on Kim Il-song's Work Held Abroad*SK0304084094 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0804
GMT 3 Apr 94*

[Text] Pyongyang, April 3 (KCNA)—A seminar on “For the ultimate solution of the rural question under the banner of the socialist rural theses”, a letter sent by the great leader President Kim Il-song to the national agricultural conference, took place at the theory and practice centre of Kimilsongism in Zimbabwe.

Speakers at the seminar said the letter is a guideline indicating the most correct way of solving the rural question, an inspiring banner giving confidence of victory to the world's revolutionary people who turned out for socialism and the building of a new society, and an encyclopaedia on the solution of the rural question.

Noting that the rural question has always stood out as a difficult problem, they stressed that it is only Korea that has successfully solved the rural question.

Seminars on the letter also took place at the Bulgaria-Korea Friendship Association, the group for the study of the *chuche* idea of Marien Ngouabi University of the Congo, the group for the study of the *chuche* idea of African students studying in Mali and at the group for the study of the *chuche* idea of the Ojota Middle School in Lagos State, Nigeria.

Volume of 'Reminiscences' Published by WPK
SK0204214594 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1512
GMT 2 Apr 94

[Text] Pyongyang, April 2 (KCNA)—The Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] publishing house has brought out "Among the People" (Vol.52). It contains 19 items of reminiscences.

The reminiscences "Worthy Fruits of Great Work Method" and "Till the Completion of a Dam of Eternal Value" show the greatness and experience of mass leadership of the respected leader President Kim Il-song in arousing officials and working people by the method of political work in order to unravel knotty problems in the course of his on-the-spot guidance.

The book includes "Tracing Footsteps of History" on the noble loving care and sense of obligation of President Kim Il-song and "For Training Scientists and Technicians" reviewing the course of building the Kim Chaek University of Technology into a breeding farm of scientific and technological personnel equipped with modern experimental and practical training facilities.

The reminiscences "Bringing up Defenders of Skies", "The Warm Guidance", "Love Invariable in the Passage of Time" and "When Taking the First Step Into a New Life" tell that President Kim Il-song embraced the bereaved families of revolutionary martyrs in his bosom of warm love, brought them up to carry forward the revolution in the new generation and guided them to properly take the first step into life.

Works by Kim Chong-il Reported Abroad
SK0104110094 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1011
GMT 1 Apr 94

[Text] Pyongyang, April 1 (KCNA)—Classical works of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il were reported in different countries.

The Guinean paper HOROYA printed a portrait of Comrade Kim Chong-il and carried the gist of his work "On the Fundamentals of Revolutionary Party Building".

The Nepalese paper NEPAL SAMACHAR, the Cameroonian paper LA VISION and a Radio of the Congo gave the gist of his work "Abuses of Socialism are Intolerable".

The first issue of DIPLOMATISCHER PRESSEDIENST, a magazine published in Vienna, Austria, carried the gist of his work "The Historical Lesson in Building Socialism and the General Line of Our Party".

Poem on Kim Chong-il Said Distributed in ROK
SK0204062594 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0427
GMT 2 Apr 94

["Poem 'Ye, Korea, I Will Let You Shine' Distributed in S. Korea"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, April 2 (KCNA)—The Saeppyo Society of South Korea distributed the poem "Ye, Korea, I Will Let You Shine", an immortal masterpiece, to inhabitants of Seoul, Pusan and Kwangju by mail, a Seoul-based Radio Voice of National Salvation reported.

The poem is written on a scroll made of vellum paper 45 by 94 centimetres on the background of Kimchongilia.

The following explanation is attached to the poem:

The dear leader Kim Chong-il, the sun of chuche, embarked on a glorious road in his early years with grand aspirations to accomplish the cause of chuche through generations. This is vividly shown in the poem "Ye, Korea, I Will Let You Shine" recited by him earnestly in his days of Kim Il-song University.

We are widely distributing this poem out of the desire to foster the soul of chuche and the resourcefulness of the nation.

"Reading the poem, people said, 'Let Us Hold in High Esteem the Dear Leader Kim Chong-il, the Great Sun of the Cause of Chuche', vowing to bring earlier the day of reunification when they will enjoy happiness, guided by him generation after generation," the radio said.

Writings of Kim Chong-il Studied in South
SK0404075894 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0526
GMT 4 Apr 94

[Text] Pyongyang, April 4 (KCNA)—The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il's classical work "On the Chuche Idea" (published on March 31, 1982) has been widely disseminated and studied among South Korean people.

Students and expelled and stay-out students of Seoul National University held a seminar on the chuche idea to mark the anniversary of its publication.

A student said there:

"Our people must be awakened in order to tide over the present difficulties.

"Then, what is the essential idea for it?

"We can say confidently that it is the great chuche idea fathered by President Kim Il-song, the sun of the nation, as clarified in dear Kim Chong-il's famous work 'on the chuche idea'."

A historian in Seoul had this to say after reading the work:

"What impressed me most deeply is that the work is filled with love for and trust in the people, deals with the question of the people's destiny and consistently gives a scientific exposition of the way for its solution.

"I was filled with emotions and joy, while reading this work, at the thought that i at last discovered a true textbook for building a new life for our nation and myself and, furthermore, for mankind.

"Dear Kim Chong-il is, indeed, a prominent great thinker and illustrious leader of our nation."

A Chondoist believer residing in Chonju said after studying the work:

"I have read almost all famous works in the world, and I can say the most famous of them is dear Kim Chong-il's work 'On the Chuche Idea'.

"It is, indeed, a great masterpiece which should be taken as a lifelong textbook."

An educationist in Pusan said:

"Dear Kim Chong-il's works should be deeply studied in order to keep alive the soul of the nation and bring about an epoch of national liberation.

"Dear Kim Chong-il is a genius of thought and theory with the steadfast idea of national independence and the lodestar of the times.

"Our nation is happy and its future is bright as it holds him, a great master of thought and theory, in high esteem."

Art Troupes Arrive for Friendship Art Festival

SK0304085194 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0807 GMT 3 Apr 94

[Text] Pyongyang, April 3 (KCNA)—An art troupe of the International Federation of Koreans for Reunification and a Kazakh art troupe arrived here Saturday to participate in the 12th April spring friendship art festival.

They were met at the airport by Choe Yong-ku, vice-minister of Culture and Art, and other officials concerned.

Earlier, an art troupe of Koreans in China arrived here by train.

Chongnyon Opera Troupe Arrives in Pyongyang

SK0204062794 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0428 GMT 2 Apr 94

[Text] Pyongyang, April 2 (KCNA)—A delegation of the Supporters' Association for the Kumgangsan Opera Troupe of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon) headed by Pak Chong-ae, chairperson of the Hokkaido Supporters' Association for the

Kumgangsan Opera Troupe, arrived here to participate in the 12th April Spring Friendship Art Festival.

Art Exhibit Marks Kim Il-song's Birthday

SK0604044794 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0431 GMT 6 Apr 94

[Text] Pyongyang, April 6 (KCNA)—A fine art exhibition opened here Tuesday to celebrate the 15th of April.

On show at the exhibition hall are 80 fine art works of different styles well portraying the glorious and brilliant history of revolutionary activities of the great leader President Kim Il-song and his immortal exploits of leadership and noble communistic virtues.

A Korean painting "The great leader and the dear leader standing on the side of Lake Chon on the top of Mt. Paektu", an oil painting "We will only trust and follow the leader", a poster "Best is our country led by the great leader" and other pictures show on an excellent artistic canvas the rock-firm will of the Korean people to struggle to the last for the accomplishment of the revolutionary cause of chuche, closely rallied around the illustrious leader, with the steadfast faith that our leader, our party and our socialism are best.

Chang Chol, vice-premier of the Administration Council and Minister of Culture and Art, made a speech at the opening ceremony.

International Reunification Group Arrives

SK0304085494 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0815 GMT 3 Apr 94

[Text] Pyongyang, April 3 (KCNA)—A congratulatory group of the International Federation of Koreans for Reunification led by Vice-chairman Chu Yong-il arrived here Saturday by air to celebrate April 15.

Soot Recommended for Efficient Fuel Consumption

SK2803063394 Pyongyang MINJU CHOSON in Korean 28 Jan 94 p 4

[Article by Yu Sang-o: "The Effective Use of Soot Is an Important Way To Save and Mobilize Fuel Reserves"]

[Summary] The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has taught on increasing production by effective use of labor, facilities, and materials.

"One of the important problems in the present produce-more-and-save-more struggle and in inner reserve mobilization is to save as much fuel as possible and obtain more reserves."

In order to mobilize greater reserves of fuel in conformity with the rapid increase in fuel demand, "we should extensively conduct work to save not only the fuel for production purposes but the fuel for consumer uses as well."

"One of the ways to save fuel for consumer use is to effectively use soot [yonjae] based on the great leader's teaching and the party's intent."

"Soot, which is used for various fields, such as construction material industry, agriculture, and metal industry, thanks to the development of science and technology, is used to save and mobilize the reserve of fuel for consumer use as well."

"Taking into account the number of families of residents using coal and petroleum, we know we can obtain considerable fuel reserves by saving the fuel for consumer use."

"The use of soot enables us to save coal for consumer use."

"Soot contains unburnt coal [miyonsotan] which can give off energy in the process of secondary burning, therefore, if we properly use it for the production of coal briquettes by mixing it with coal, we can save considerable quantity of coal for consumer use. If we separate unburnt coal from soot and add the relevant quantity to general soot, we can make coal briquette without using other coal at all. If we use coal briquette by burning it in a fire box which can retain heat well, we can cook rice and heat the room quickly."

"The use of soot enables us to save petroleum for consumer use as well."

There are inexhaustible sources of soot in the country, in the power plants, and in boilers at plants and enterprises, therefore, there are good prospects for saving fuel.

The problem of primary importance in mobilizing and utilizing this fuel saving reserve is to effectively conduct the work of separating unburnt coal from soot.

"To attain major success in the active campaign to save fuel for consumer use through the effective use of soot, we must enhance the role of functionaries in the administrative and economic organizations and in the fuel supply sector."

"The more we make it possible to save fuel for consumer use, the more we can utilize it for production and construction in various sectors of the people's economy, and the better can we promote the expedience of the residents' life."

"The functionaries should solve on their own the problems in utilizing soot for consumer fuel displaying the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance and fortitude and contribute to a smoother solution to the fuel problem."

Countryside Begins Spring Tilling, Planting
SK3103214994 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1506
GMT 31 Mar 94

[Text] Pyongyang, March 31 (KCNA)—The countryside of Korea is alive with spring farming.

Agricultural working people across the country are sowing seed rice on cold-beds as demanded by the chuche method of farming to bring another bumper harvest this year.

Cooperative farmers in South Hwanghae and South Pyongan Provinces situated in the western region of the country are sowing seed rice on a scientific and technical basis with efficient machines including seedling-bed-hardening, sowing and fertilizer-spreading machines.

Humus pots of maize seedlings are being made briskly. Their making had progressed 70 percent nationwide as of March 26. It has already been completed on the cooperative farms in North Pyongan and North Hwanghae Provinces and Pyongyang municipality.

Carpeting fields with humus soil and the production of compost and its carriage to the fields have been completed ten odd days earlier than last year on all the cooperative farms.

Spring ploughing is being accelerated with the increase of the operation rate of tractors. Thousands of hectares of paddy and non-paddy fields have been tilled in a few days after the ploughing began in Chongdan, Yonan, Paechon, Sinchon and Anak Counties, South Hwanghae Province, and in Sukchon, Pyongwon and Mundok Counties, South Pyongan Province.

Irrigation water is flowing into the fields upon the completion of the ploughing.

Industrial establishments are actively assisting agriculture materially and technologically. Factories serving agriculture including the Kumsong general tractor works, the Hungnam fertilizer complex and the Haeju trailing farm machine factory are producing tractors, farm machines and chemical fertilizers in large quantities and sending them to the countryside.

Quarterly Economic Quotas Reported Fulfilled
SK3103214894 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1501
GMT 31 Mar 94

[Text] Pyongyang, March 31 (KCNA)—The first quarterly plans have been fulfilled by different units of the national economy in Korea.

The Songchon mine, Toksong coal mine, Hochon-kang power station and hydraulic power stations in Chagang Province have carried out their quarterly plans a week ahead of schedule.

Twenty-seven industrial establishments under the general bureau of land transport, the combined general bureau of marine transport, the general bureau of harbour, the Amnok-kang transport station, the west sea transport station and the Hwadae marine transport station have overfulfilled their quotas and are now carrying

out daily assignments at above 110 percent, setting themselves a goal to fulfill the first half-year plans ahead of schedule.

The Yanggang provincial prospecting administration carried out its quarterly plan for prospecting at 131.3 percent, drilling at 131.4 percent, and at 100.1 percent in terms of gross industrial output value as of March 25.

The combined general bureau of local industry, the general bureau of garment, the foodstuff complex in Pyongyang and many factories under the general Pyongyang construction bureau, too, fulfilled their quarterly assignments ahead of schedule.

Soldiers Undertake Highway Construction Project

SK0204214394 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1508 GMT 2 Apr 94

[Text] Pyongyang, April 2 (KCNA)—The construction of the express highway stretching more than 120 kilometres from Pyongyang to Hyangsan, where scenic Mt. Myohyang is situated, is progressing at a high speed in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

The project has been undertaken by soldiers. They have completed road-bed building in many sections, and are accelerating the construction of bridges and structures.

The soldiers of the Sin Il-nam unit of the Korean People's Security Forces carried out over 50 percent of the projects assigned to them, excavating hundreds of thousands of cubic metres of earth and tamping tens of thousands of cubic metres of concrete in the first three months of the year.

The Yun In-ok unit is these days transporting more than 5,000 cubic metres of earth every day by raising the utility rate of rolling stock and excavating equipment to the maximum. They have carried out over 65 percent of earth work in recent several months.

The soldiers of the Kim Hyong-guk unit in charge of bridge building are increasing the speed of construction while saving large quantities of steel and cement, by introducing new building methods.

TV Drama on Agriculture Cooperative Popular

SK2803110494 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1027 GMT 28 Mar 94

[Text] Pyongyang, March 28 (KCNA)—“New Spring in Sokgaek”, a serial TV drama, is being screened in Korea these days amid the keen interest of the people. It is being screened for the second time at the request of the TV audience. It is adapted from “New Spring in Sokgaek”, a long novel of Chon Se-pong, who was a renowned writer of Korea.

The stage is set against the background of the mid-1950s when agricultural cooperativisation was started and completed in the country.

The hero of the novel is Chang Hyok, a demobilized officer who returned to his home village after victory in the war. The theme of the drama is to carry out agricultural cooperativisation by educating and remoulding people of different interests and complex backgrounds. It enjoys unstinting praises of the audience for its high ideological and artistic value, three-dimensional depiction and tested acting of the actors and actresses.

The drama was created by the General Bureau of TV and Radio Literature and Art. The creating staff of the bureau which creates dramas adapted from masterpieces has successfully produced far more than 100 dramas meeting the demand of the Workers' Party of Korea and aspiration of the people. Typical of them are the serial dramas “The Morning of the Plateau”, “Joy”, “On the First Shore”, “Coal Miners” and “The Lark”. They vividly portray characters with distinct personality by delicate delineation, rousing interests of the audience.

Highly estimating their successes, the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il sent thanks to the creating staff of the serial TV dramas.

The first serial TV drama appeared in Korea in 1981. The staff which was inaugurated with dozens of writers, directors, editors, etc. has grown into a mighty group of several hundred creative workers and artistes, among them people's artiste An Mun-ha and merited artistes Ko Song-yong, Sok Song-chae, Cho Chong-un, So Chang-ho and dozens of other famous actors and actresses.

The creating staff is giving last touches to several works including serial dramas “Song of Praise to Youth” and “My Name Is Youth”.

“Those Handling Fire” (17 parts) will be shortly screened. It depicts the struggle of the workers of the Hwanghae Iron and Steel Complex who became the masters of the country after the liberation for making a sizable contribution to the building of a new country by rehabilitating a furnace which was heavily destroyed by the Japanese imperialists.

South Korea

Kim Tae-chung Comments on DPRK Nuclear Issue

SK0204024894 Seoul YONHAP in English 0223 GMT 2 Apr 94

[Text] Seoul, April 2 (YONHAP)—Kim Tae-chung, chairman of the Asia-Pacific Peace Foundation, said Saturday that South Korea should ask for nuclear transparency in the North and then quietly await the outcome without getting directly involved.

“This is because the nuclear question is basically an issue between North Korea and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and between North Korea and the United States,” he said.

Kim said that although Seoul had the right to demand inter-Korean nuclear inspections under the joint denuclearization declaration, it could refrain from doing so once the IAEA completely guarantees Pyongyang's nuclear transparency.

Kim's remarks are part of a lecture at Cheju University to be given Saturday afternoon, whose text was distributed to the press in advance.

On the proposed exchange of special envoys, the former opposition leader said it should be used as an occasion to promote an inter-Korean summit by enabling the envoys to discuss matters related to peace, cooperation and unification.

He said an inter-Korean summit should take place without further delay if only to dispel distrust, misunderstanding and enmity between the two sides and also to explore "our destiny on our own."

Regarding the North Koreans' threat to turn Seoul into "a sea of fire," Kim said they should revoke the inflammatory statement and apologize to the 44 million South Koreans. He also criticized as "totally unrealistic and dangerous" a high South Korean defense official's remarks that "if war breaks out, we would use it as an occasion to achieve unification by force of arms."

Kim observed that the North Korean forces are strong and, besides, China would not allow South Korea and the United States to gain control of the strategic Yellow Sea.

He also foresaw the possibility of the United States and North Korea striking a deal featuring simultaneous resolution of the nuclear question and diplomatic normalization. "It appears that beneath-the-surface talks have been going on to a substantial extent between the United States and North Korea on the issues of diplomatic normalization and economic cooperation," he said.

Kim voiced opposition to an arms buildup in the South, asserting that deployment of Patriot missiles, procurement of sophisticated weaponry and resumption of the Team Spirit exercise would only impede attempts at dialogue.

No 'Consensus' in Ministers' Meeting on DPRK
SK0604071994 Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean
6 Apr 94 p 2

[Report by Kim Ik-hyon and Kang Yong-chin]

[Text] Security-related ministers held a six-hour long emergency meeting at the prime minister's residence in Samchong-tong, Seoul on 5 April to discuss countermeasures on the North Korean nuclear issue following the U.S. request that the ROK concede on the issue of exchanging North-South special envoys, a precondition for the third round of North Korean-U.S. talks, in an effort to resolve the North Korean nuclear issue. Failing

to reach any consensus, however, the government is having trouble coming up with a clear position on this issue.

A high-ranking government official disclosed that Prime Minister Yi Hoe-chang, Yi Yong-tok, deputy prime minister and unification board minister, Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu, Kim Tok, National Security Planning Agency Director, and Yi Chong-uk, senior presidential secretary for foreign and national security affairs, gathered at the prime minister's official residence and extensively discussed measures regarding nuclear negotiations with North Korea from 1600 [0700 GMT] to 2200 [1300 GMT] that day, but failed to reach any conclusion.

Following Foreign Minister Han's briefing on his trip to the United States, discussion centered around the U.S. suggestions for concession on the issue of exchanging North-South special envoys, and resumption of the Team Spirit military exercise.

According to a source, two very different views conflicted with one another at the meeting: While some argued that conceding on the issue of exchanging North-South special envoys so that North Korea-U.S. talks can proceed and, North Korea can be lead to receive nuclear inspections was a realistic way to resolving the nuclear issue, others insisted on not giving up on North-South dialogue.

It was learned that those in favor of conceding, noted the atmosphere in the international community and the United States of placing more importance on the realization of North Korea-U.S. talks as they feel that the UN action resulted from the International Atomic Energy agency's [IAEA] inspections and not the lack of progress in North-South dialogue.

Those opposed to any concession argued that conceding would appear as though our side were being dragged along by North Korea's tactics to delay talks and warned of public criticism of the government for repeated concessions to North Korea.

In a recent letter in the name of Kang Sok-chu, vice foreign minister and senior delegate of the North Korean side to North Korea-U.S. talks, to Robert Gallucci, U.S. Assistant Secretary of State and U.S. side's senior delegate, the North Korean side said that "if the United States does not link the holding of a third round of North Korea-U.S. talks with the exchange of North-South special envoys, which was put forward as a precondition for the talks, North Korea will accept additional inspections by the IAEA." Meanwhile, U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher pointed out that "acceptance [of North Korean demand] is the only realistic method to breaking the current situation," and asked the ROK side to consider it.

Citing domestic sentiments, however, Foreign Minister Han reportedly expressed an opposing view.

Discussing how the situation must appear to the public with the confusion within the government pertaining to the negotiation strategy on the North Korean nuclear issue, another source revealed that the security-related ministers agreed on the need to fine tune the government's position, and decided to adjust flexibly to developments in the situation while adhering to existing policies.

Participants at the meeting also voiced concern over the possibility of Vice Foreign Minister Hong Sun-yong's recent remarks on the possibility of considering a plan to withdraw the demand to exchange North-South special envoys, upsetting government policy.

PRC-DPRK Military Cooperation Reported

SK0604052994 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 6 April 94 p 7

[Report by Ha Won from Tokyo]

[Text] North Korea and China are stepping up bilateral military cooperation, THE SANKEI SHIMBUN reported on 5 April, quoting a Hong Kong-based U.S. Congressional source on Asian affairs.

According to the paper, North Korea has developed long-range missiles with modern technologies from China. China, in return, is exporting missiles and other arms to the Middle East region via North Korean ports.

The source said that the China North Industries Group and Poly Technologies Incorporated are working in close military cooperation with North Korea. Both manufacture and sell arms and are directly controlled by the People's Liberation Army. The source added that the bilateral relations of cooperation between China and North Korea have been maintained for a long period of time through these organs.

In particular, the China North Industries Group has recently provided modern missile technology to North Korea, enabling it to complete the development of long-range missiles, the paper reported.

The paper pointed out that chances are very slim that China, which accounts for 85 percent of major imported goods to North Korea, will take part in practical sanctions against North Korea, even if it abstains when the UN Security Council votes on economic sanctions against North Korea.

U.S. Urges DPRK Allow Inspection by 15 Apr

SK0604014294 Seoul YONHAP in English 0031 GMT 6 Apr 94

[Text] Tokyo, April 6 (YONHAP)—The United States has decided to take hard-line action against North Korea, including resumption of this year's "Team Spirit" military drill if Pyongyang fails to fulfill a statement by the United Nations Security Council urging it to allow additional nuclear inspections, by April 15 when

Defense Secretary William Perry visits Seoul, a vernacular Japanese newspaper reported Tuesday.

Washington's new direction was decided Monday at the first U.S. administration meeting on the North Korean nuclear issue chaired by the chief negotiator at high-level talks with Pyongyang. Assistant Secretary of State Robert Gallucci, a senior U.S. official told the MAIN-ICHI SHIMBUN.

Attendants of the meeting included officials above the assistant- secretarial level from the State and Defense Departments, the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the Central Intelligence Agency and the National Security Council.

Officials from most agencies except for the State Department agreed that action against North Korea was inevitable, the U.S. official said.

It was agreed at the meeting that Washington will prepare action and follow-up measures if North Korea shows no willingness to compromise by early next week, the official said.

Time is running out for North Korea as the mood in Washington has hardened since the communist regime's obstruction of checks by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and as a hard-line stance is prevailing in Congress, the official told MAINICHI.

U.S. Official on 'War of Nerves' With DPRK

SK0604002394 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 6 Apr 94 p 1

[Report by John Wallach]

[Text] The United States may have no more than "a few days" warning of any North Korean attack against South Korea, a senior U.S. intelligence official disclosed Monday.

The short warning time has led U.S. forces to employ a "vast array" of technological and human spy techniques to keep ahead in the war of nerves on the Korean Peninsula, the U.S. official said.

North Korea's troops are as close to ready as any forces that we ever faced in the Cold War, he said. "With the high state of readiness that has developed over quite some time, you can't expect hopefully more than a matter of a few days" warning, he said.

The U.S. official said the problem of knowing if and when North Korea plans to attack is compounded by the fact that Pyongyang has increased the numbers of "forward deployed" troops along its border with South Korea and "their general condition of readiness."

Thus, if North Korea wanted to attack, "it wouldn't have to change a great deal," he said.

Since the end of 1992, North Korea has increased its military strength from 16 corps or 144 divisions to 17

corps or 152 divisions, boosting the total number of North Korean troops to 1,030,000, he said.

Two-thirds of North Korea's troops are positioned within 60 miles of the demilitarized zone (DMZ) at the 38th parallel dividing the two nations. Seoul, South Korea's capital, is only 25 miles from the DMZ, within range of North Korea's big artillery pieces.

U.S. plans call for a combined U.S.-South Korean force of about 400,000 troops. The United States currently has 37,000 troops in South Korea.

Among the techniques used by the CIA to detect changes are satellite photography, electronic or "signals" eavesdropping, aircraft and "humint," the intelligence gathered by human beings, presumably South Korean agents smuggled into North Korea.

"You try to look at patterns of behavior and see if they're changing," the official said. "Our warning people have long lists of things they are particularly interested in."

They include such seemingly mundane items as shipments of morphine designed to treat expected casualties and unusually large shipments of ammunition and other supplies.

Other warning signs include unusual troop movements, the mobilization of reserve forces.

None of these has yet showed any unusual activity, the official said.

But the art of obtaining such knowledge, when your enemy goes to inordinate lengths to conceal it, is an inexact science at best, the official said.

The experts divide the signs into two categories: unambiguous and ambiguous.

"You're rarely lucky enough to get absolutely clear-cut signs because the other guy tries to disguise it and also tries to frighten you by doing some things that may not be genuine," he said.

Such advance warning is critical to providing U.S. and South Korean troops with enough time to prepare for either a counterattack or to launch a preemptive strike, a move which Defense Secretary William J. Perry has pointedly refused to rule out.

Government: Envoy Exchange, Inspection Necessary

SK0604051194 Seoul YONHAP in English 0502 GMT 6 Apr 94

[Text] Seoul, April 6 (YONHAP)—The government reaffirmed Tuesday [5 April] the initial Seoul-Washington position that no further high-level talks between North Korea and the United States will be held unless Pyongyang allows additional inspections by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and exchanges special envoys with the South.

Prime Minister Yi Hoe-chang chaired a strategic cabinet meeting attended by Deputy Prime Minister Yi Yong-tok, Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu and the director of the Agency for National Security Planning, Kim Tok, and reiterated the South Korean-U.S. stance after being briefed on Han's visits to Washington and Tokyo.

Han played up the significance of a statement by the United Nations Security Council in the name of its President Jean-Bernard Merimee, adopted unanimously last week, urging North Korea to permit full nuclear inspections.

Concerned countries are working closely to ensure that North Korea allows additional nuclear checks before the deadline, reportedly fixed for early May, Han reported at the meeting.

The foreign minister said he had discussed dropping the inter-Korean exchange of envoys as a condition for high-level North Korea-U.S. talks with his American counterpart Warren Christopher and other senior officials, but decided against it in light of South Koreans' sentiments.

Chochongnyon Official on DPRK Succession

SK0604005394 Seoul YONHAP in English 0040 GMT 6 Apr 94

[Text] Tokyo, April 6 (YONHAP)—A senior official of Chochongnyon [General Association of Korean Residents in Japan], a federation of pro-Pyongyang Koreans residing in Japan, said Tuesday that Kim Chong-il has taken over power from his father, President Kim Il-song.

Chochongnyon Vice Chairman Ho Chong-man said, "(North Korean) Workers' Party Secretary Kim Chong-il has taken over power in politics, the economy and the military from his father Kim Il-song."

Ho made the remarks in an address at a plenary session of the Social Democratic Party's Japan-North Korea Committee.

Ho added that he had met with Kim Chong-il for about two hours while visiting North Korea from Feb. 15 to March 1.

He said that "Kim looked very well," denying rumors that Kim had been severely injured.

Chochongnyon sends remittances of 500 million to 600 million U.S. dollars to North Korea every year and its senior officials are well-informed on the communist country.

Kim Yong-sam: No Asylum for DPRK Loggers

SK0604085794 Seoul YONHAP in English 0731 GMT 6 Apr 94

[Text] Seoul, April 6 (YONHAP)—President Kim Yong-sam dismissed as groundless a press report that the Seoul Government will accept North Korean loggers in Siberia

seeking political asylum in South Korea, Presidential Spokesman Chu Ton-sik said Wednesday.

While briefing business leaders on his recent visits to Japan and China over lunch at Chongwadae, President Kim said, "more than 90 North Korean laborers in Russia have applied for asylum in South Korea through our consulate-general or embassy but the government is not accepting them in order not to get on the nerves of North Korea."

"The government's position on the matter remains the same as before and the government is not considering bringing in the North Koreans at the moment," the chief executive was quoted as saying.

DPRK Ambassador to India Interviewed

SK0604132694 Seoul YONHAP in English 1045 GMT 6 Apr 94

[Text] New Delhi, April 6 (YONHAP)—The North Korean ambassador here, asserting "threat of nuclear arms development by South Korea and Japan is becoming a reality," said Wednesday his country will determine whether to develop nuclear weapons depending on the extent of the effect such a threat would have on their sovereignty.

Ambassador Cha Pong-chu said in an exclusive interview with the YONHAP News Agency that at the moment North Korea has no plan to develop nuclear arms.

"We hope to resolve the nuclear question through dialogue," Cha said. "To this end, a third-round North Korea-U.S. meeting should be held at an early date to discuss the issue."

He claimed that Japan's intent of getting nuclearly armed is an openly-known thing. "Japan will rise up (militarily) again under all circumstances," he said.

Cha said even if North Korea develops nuclear arms, they would not be directed against other part of the Korean peninsula where he said the same brethren live or against the United States across the Pacific.

"Our nuclear arms, if developed, would be primarily designed to contain Japan," he said.

The ambassador said North Korea's official position toward the issue of nuclear development is that "we have neither the intent nor the ability of developing nuclear weapons."

In particular, he said, North Korea has no expertise to develop nuclear weapons.

Cha said North Korea will not attack South Korea first. "But, if we were attacked, we will not sit idly by," he said, adding that if a war recurs, there will be no winner or loser. "We all will have no choice but to die," he said.

He further said North Korea has already gone through all IAEA inspections, the outcome of which he said showed there is no nuclear suspicion.

"IAEA's demand for additional inspection notwithstanding is an undue pressure stemming from a scheme of the United States to eliminate us," the North Korean ambassador said.

DPRK Letter to UN Chief 'Threatened' War

SK0604004594 Seoul HANGUK ILBO in Korean 6 Apr 94 p 2

[YONHAP from New York]

[Text] It was learned on 4 April [New York time] that, regarding the North Korean nuclear issue, North Korean Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam threatened in his letter to UN Secretary-General Butrus Butrus-Ghali that "a war may take place again on the Korean peninsula."

In his letter dated 23 March, which was opened to the public by the United Nations on 4 April, Minister Kim threatened that the Korean peninsula would again face such unfortunate history as that of the 1950's if the UN Security Council yields to U.S. insistence on adopting a resolution unfavorable to North Korea. In the letter, Minister Kim also said that North Korea would resume its peaceful nuclear activities and warned that it is possible for North Korea to adhere to its decision to withdraw from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, which was made last year.

In March, when the International Atomic Energy Agency inspection team reported that the recent inspection of North Korean nuclear facilities was insufficient, the United States asked member nations of the UN Security Council [UNSC] to adopt a UNSC resolution urging North Korea to allow additional inspections.

Trade Meeting With U.S. on 4,5 Apr Reported

SK0604090794 Seoul YONHAP in English 0716 GMT 6 Apr 94

[Text] Washington, April 6 (YONHAP)—South Korean and U.S. officials held a trade subcommittee meeting here to discuss pending issues on Monday and Tuesday.

According to the South Korean Embassy, the United States expressed disappointment that no progress had been made on Korea's opening its market to American automobiles at the 16th working-level meeting.

South Korea, however, said that Trade, Industry and Energy Minister Kim Chol-su and U.S. Trade Representative Mickey Kantor can discuss the matter while in Morocco this month for the signing of the Uruguay Round agreement.

Washington also complained about the way Seoul handles protection of U.S. trademarks and intellectual property rights and demanded the lifting of a regulation on importation of frozen codfish heads and sausages.

South Korea expressed concern over the revival of the Super 301 trade provision while protesting the U.S. delay in a new dumping trial for Korean-made color televisions and inclusion of Korean standard pipes in a list coming under anti-dumping regulations.

Seoul urged Washington to acknowledge its efforts to protect U.S. intellectual property rights and drop it from the Priority Watch List (PWL).

Moreover, South Korea voiced concern over a U.S. court ruling on "business secret violence" between Korea's Iljin Corp. and America's General Electric.

The two nations also discussed ways to narrow their differences in the investment and service sectors.

Chong Ui-yong, director-general of the Foreign Ministry's International Trade Bureau, led the Korean delegation while Peter Collins, deputy assistant trade representative, headed the U.S. side.

Think Tank Advises Seoul on Section 301 Bill
SK0604002894 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
6 Apr 94 p 8

[By staff reporter Kim Chang-yong]

[Text] No country in the world but Korea has fallen victim to Section 301 of the U.S. omnibus trade bill even before Washington designated it as the target of comprehensive retaliation, a state-run think tank said in a report yesterday.

The Korea Institute for International Economic Policy [KIEP] advised the administration not to be scared by the invocation of the bill, which is originally a domestic law and contradicts the freer world trade order under the Uruguay Round accord.

Washington, which recently revived the section, popularly called Super 301 provision, is pressing Seoul to reduce what it describes as barriers in the auto market and threatening to designate Korea's auto import regulations as a "priority foreign country practice" otherwise.

Korea and the United States held two-day working-level trade talks in Washington yesterday which focused on the auto issue.

The Bush administration designated Japan, India and Brazil as priority foreign countries under the Section 301 in May 1989, putting six import practices of the three countries in its sights for urgent improvement.

What Americans called unfair trade practices concerned the Japanese government's procurement of supercomputers, India's purchase of artificial satellites and Indonesia's allegedly technical barriers in forestry development.

The three countries all turned down negotiations with the United States roundly as far as the talks entailed retaliation, ultimately escaping any retaliatory step, the KIEP said.

Actually, Japan agreed with the United States to comply with the latter's demand for economic restructuring that could facilitate U.S. access to the Japanese market on condition Washington excluded Tokyo from the list of priority foreign countries and reserved retaliation.

Washington got little tangible outcome from its talks with Tokyo on restructuring.

Brazil also led the United States to reverse its earlier designation by reducing import restrictions on some products through subsequent negotiations.

India was solely put on the list but was given no substantial retaliation.

Korea, for its part, expanded the farm market opening wider and committed itself to reducing tariffs on seven products while the United States was just reviewing its import practices with a threat of retaliation.

"Korea was the only country that yielded to the shadow of the Section Super 301 and made great concessions to the United States all ahead of the application of the provision," the report said.

The research body said that Korea does not have to be concerned too much over the Section Super 301 to lose core interests before negotiations.

"Many countries point out that the U.S. provision will be contradictory with the Uruguay Round of the new international trade regime which will set forth the World Trade Organization," it added.

Tariff Increase Considered on Apparel, Footwear
SK0204074394 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English
2 Apr 94 p 8

[Text] The government, which is working on the tariff schedule for 1995, is considering raising the tariff rates on apparel, footwear and toys up to 15 percent from the current 8 percent level.

Though it is set to accommodate tariff concessions it has committed itself to under the Uruguay Round accord, the government has room for tariff rate increases for apparel, footwear and toys, the Ministry of Finance said yesterday.

Under the Uruguay Round accord concluded last December, the ministry said, Korea is set to cut the tariff

rates in the years ahead, not from the current 8 percent level, but from the 20 percent level in the 1986 base year.

The ministry said the government will consider industrial competitiveness in readjusting tariff rates and that tariff rates on apparel, footwear and other light industrial products are far lower than in other countries.

In Japan, for example, tariff rates on apparel, footwear and toys exceed 20 percent, the ministry said.

The government, it said, will be able to lower tariff rates on heavy-chemical industrial products.

The 1995 tariff schedule will include yearly cuts in tariff rates that are set to decline to zero percent or to a minimum level in five to 10 years under the Uruguay Round accord, the ministry said.

Those items whose tariffs are scheduled to be eliminated during the next five to 10 years include computer input and output devices, printers and semiconductors.

To reduce the impact of the opening of the domestic farm market, the ministry said, the government plans to introduce specific tariff rates on certain farm products.

The government will also consider applying the higher rates of the ad valorem and specific rates on certain other farm products, the ministry said.

Specific rates will help curb low-priced imports as they are applied to the volume of imports in contrast with ad valorem rates applied to the value of imports, the ministry said.

The government will no longer prepare a five-year tariff reduction plan, the ministry said. The second five-year tariff reduction plan ends this year.

When tariffs were high, the government was forced to announce long-term tariff reduction plans. The average tariff rate, which stood at 21.9 percent, has been cut to 7.9 percent as of this year.

"Even without a tariff reduction plan, Korea is set to cut tariff rates under the Uruguay Round accord," said an official from the ministry. "In addition, we do now know that will happen during the next five years."

The ministry said the government will prepare a draft tariff schedule for the 1995 during the first half of this year and send it to the National Assembly for approval in September.

A committee set up to work on the draft schedule, chaired by Ku Pyeong-hoe, chairman of the Korea Foreign Trade Association, held its first meeting yesterday morning. Committee members include government officials, economists and business representatives.

MOF Announces Tariff Rate Reform Plan

SK0304054394 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
3 Apr 94 p 9

[Text] The Ministry of Finance [MOF] yesterday announced a plan to conduct a reform of the tariff rate structure this year in line with the conclusion of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations.

As Korea committed itself to levying no tariffs on specific products or harmonizing its tariff system with those of the GATT members at the Uruguay Round, the overall overhaul of the existing tariff rate structures is needed, MOF officials said. Furthermore, Korea needs to come out with the new tariff rate programs as its second five-year tariff rate reduction program will be due this year, it said. Under the five-year plan, Korea's average tariff rate will fall to 7.9 percent by the end of this year, from 12.7 percent in 1989. The average tariff rate was 7.1 percent for industrial products and 17.8 percent for agricultural products at the end of last year, compared with 11.2 percent and 20.6 percent, respectively, in 1989.

Despite foreign "satisfaction" over Korea's "low" tariff rates, there has been some criticism in the Korean business community that the government lowered the tariff rate too rapidly, without full taking into consideration the nation's economic status.

The MOF yesterday held a first working-level conference to reform the tariff rate structures. The new plan will become effective from next year following a formal endorsement from the National Assembly this fall, the MOF said. In the reform, the government will institute a system of levying customs duties on agriculture, fisheries and light industrial products on the basis of the imported quantity, not the imported value. This is designed to protect domestic industries from an influx of cheap foreign goods, it said. The government will also retain the right to levy tariffs on these agricultural products and light industrial goods either on the basis of imported volume or imported value, it said.

The reform will be made in such a way as to strengthen the international competitiveness of domestic industries through customs duties adjustment, it said. Existing imbalance of tariff rates on different industrial sectors will be adjusted. Instead of frequently levying "emergency or adjustment tariff rates," the government will make a realistic adjustment on customs duties on specific products, it said.

Report on Ship Used by Koreans To Visit DPRK

SK0204124094 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 1 Apr 94 p 6

[By reporter Pu Chi-yong from Tokyo]

[Text] YOMIURI SHIMBUN reported that as part of a means for possible economic sanctions in connection with the North Korean nuclear issue, the Japanese

authorities are discussing the possibility of suspending trade with North Korea and prohibiting the members of the pro-North Korean residents' league in Japan from going to North Korea. YOMIURI SHIMBUN added that amid this kind of situation, the ship, Mangyongbong-92, which uses one of the routes used for sending money to North Korea left Niigata port, Japan for Wonsan, North Korea on 30 March.

It is the third time that Mangyongbong-92 set sail from Japan this year. After loading cargo at Niigata port on 28 March, Mangyongbong-92 set sail on 30 March at around 1000.

Mangyongbong-92, which set sail from Niigata port, arrived 26 hours later in Wonsan. Members of the pro-North Korean residents' league in Japan use this ship, which can carry up to 250 people. It is also being used to transport cargo.

It was learned that in 1993 Mangyongbong-92 entered Niigata port on 25 occasions. It transported about 5,000 members of the pro-North Korean residents' league in Japan to North Korea and various cargo.

YOMIURI SHIMBUN pointed out that if the UN Security Council decides to carry out economic sanctions against North Korea and thus prohibits Japanese trade with North Korea and pro-North Korean residents league in Japan from visiting North Korea, there is a high possibility that Mangyongbong-92 will not be able to enter Japan any longer.

Government, Japan To Expand Military Exchanges

SK0204072894 Seoul YONHAP in English 0658 GMT 2 Apr 94

[Text] Seoul, April 2 (YONHAP)—The South Korean Government decided to expand military exchanges with Japan, informed sources said on Saturday [2 April].

Defense Minister Yi Pyong-tae will visit Japan on April 25 for the first time as Korean defense minister and will have a meeting with the Japanese defense minister.

Both ministers are to discuss military exchanges between the two countries.

"The people's feeling has banned military exchanges between Seoul and Tokyo so far, but Yi's visit to Japan will be a momentum to activate military exchanges between the two countries," a government official said.

It is highly likely that navy ships of both countries will visit each other as early as this year, the official said.

Meanwhile, the Chairman of Joint Chiefs of Staff Yi Yang-ho, who accompanied President Kim Yong-sam's visit to Japan and China, met with Japanese military leaders in Tokyo to discuss North Korea's nuclear problem and measures for a possible missile attack from Pyongyang.

Security Policy Coordination Board Planned

SK0604003294 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 6 Apr 94 p 2

[Text] Amid growing criticism of the confusing government policy on foreign affairs and national security, an interministry body on policy coordination in the area will be soon formed, a Chongwadae [presidential office] official said yesterday.

The presidential office reached the conclusion there is a need for a coordinating body which will hold meetings on a regular basis as cacophonous views, especially on the North Korean nuclear issue, are being aired by ranking officials of the National Unification Board [NUB], the Foreign Ministry, the Agency for National Security Planning [NSP] and other security-related agencies, confusing the people.

Chongwadae has conducted indepth studies on whether to strengthen the function of the presidential secretary for foreign affairs and national security or create a new policy coordinating council.

The conclusion was that it preferred the formation of a coordinating body to the beefing up the role of the senior presidential aide.

The policy coordinating body will be launched this week and meet every week to check and analyze the security situation on and around the Korean peninsula so as to tune the policy the government will pursue.

A ranking Chongwadae official said yesterday, "We are studying whether the policy coordinating body will have the chiefs of government agencies dealing with foreign affairs and national security."

He added, "The body will not be the same as the National Security Council of the United States in character. It will be only aimed at discussing and adjusting policies on diplomacy and national security."

Currently, there are some similar conferences, including a meeting of security-related Cabinet members presided over by President Kim Yong-sam, a high-level strategy conference chaired by Prime Minister Yi Hoe-chang and a unification-related Cabinet ministers' meeting presided over by Deputy Premier-National Unification Minister Yi Yong-tok.

The Chongwadae official said, "Since the Chief Executive makes the final decisions on diplomatic and security policy, the coordinating body will act to assist the President."

The body will consist of ministers of the NUB, Foreign Ministry, NSP director and ranking officials from the presidential office.

Yi Ki-taek Criticizes Seoul at News Conference*SK0604051894 Seoul YONHAP in English 0458 GMT 6 Apr 94*

[Text] Seoul, April 6 (YONHAP)—Opposition Democratic Party (DP) Chairman Yi Ki-taek urged President Kim Yong-sam Wednesday to make resolute decisions on a series of recent incidents that he claimed have precipitated a national crisis.

Speaking at a press conference, Yi singled out four "suspicious affairs" including the violent power struggle at the Chogye Buddhist order, modifications in the Uruguay Round trade pact and a wavering government policy on the North Korean nuclear issue.

The current national crisis precipitated by these affairs was caused by "the absence of governing ability" and "the dogmatic ruling style" of the president, Yi declared.

He alleged that "political authorities" were behind the recent clash at the Chogye Buddhist order involving the re-election of its executive chief.

Obviously trying to make political hay out of the religious incident, Yi claimed "this is a grave problem that calls into question the basic morality" of the Kim administration.

In addition, he cited other serious incidents including alleged irregularities in the process of moving the site of Sangmu University, electioneering before the legally allowed period, and suspicion over possible police surveillance of former DP chairman Kim Tae-chung.

Doubts over these allegations must be cleared up, Yi insisted.

Meanwhile the spokesman for the ruling Democratic Liberal Party, Ha Sun-pong, issued a statement refuting Yi's charges. "The Democratic Party is trying to confuse the people by making political issues out of national and international difficulties the nation is facing."

"Chairman Yi should stop making irresponsible and instigative remarks," ha said.

Yi said that after a gang of goons had been brought in to beat up demonstrators demanding the resignation of Chogye chief executive the Rev. So Ui-hyon, police only arrested the demonstrators and not the ruffians.

This, he said, proves that political authorities are involved in the incident.

As for irregularities at Sangmu University, Yi said that according to his party's investigation, some 22.7 billion won had been raised for a slush fund and the money "flowed into" ruling Democratic Liberal Party coffers during the presidential election campaign.

Commenting on changes in the government's execution plans for the Uruguay Round agreement, Yi said the

administration had caved in to pressure from the United States and other countries and made several concessions.

"This is a deceitful action on the part of the government," Yi declared. "It is unacceptable under any excuses."

The Democratic Party will stage outdoor rallies in order to condemn the government for its "lax attitude" and incompetence, Yi vowed.

With regard to the illegal electioneering allegedly committed by the mayor of Inchon and the governor of South Chungchong Province, two of the president's close associates, Yi accused the government of not punishing them.

Yi also demanded that the government fire Home Affairs Minister Choe Hyong-u for such incidents as the suspected police surveillance of Kim Tae-chung.

Poll Shows 82 Percent Support Policy 'Direction'*SK0404123794 Seoul YONHAP in English 1053 GMT 4 Apr 94*

[Text] Seoul, April 4 (YONHAP)—An overall majority of the South Korean people were found to support the way President Kim Yong-sam handles state affairs, a recent opinion survey showed on Monday.

A telephone poll taken by the Media Research Co. of 1,000 adults across the country on last March 29 indicated that 82 percent of the questioned supported the direction of the president's policies.

Of the total, 24.7 percent described President Kim's performance as "very good" and 57.4 percent as "relatively good."

On the other hand, 15.5 percent replied the president has been doing not so well and 1.2 percent he was doing very poorly.

Support for the president was higher among aged people and those with less academic background, it showed.

As the areas the president should handle on a priority basis, 41.1 percent gave price control, 6 percent rectification of campus irregularities, 3.1 percent rural problems and 2.6 percent political reform.

With regard to the president's recent visit to Japan and China, 74.4 percent of those surveyed said the tour seemed successful while 22.2 percent said they believe it was not successful.

On the North Korean nuclear question, 31 percent of the polled said South Korea should deal with North Korea strongly. Those who replied dialogue and persuasion should continue to be made accounted for 68.2 percent of the total.

Regarding the Uruguay Round talks, 45.5 percent said the National Assembly should ratify the Uruguay Round agreement while 48.5 percent said it shouldn't.

Asked which political party they support, 40 percent gave the ruling Democratic Liberal Party, 23.3 percent the Opposition Democratic Party, 3.3 percent the Political Reform Party (Sinjong-tang), 0.8 percent the United People's Party, and 0.1 percent the New Korea Party.

Kim Dissatisfied With Illicit Campaigning Cases

SK0204040594 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 2 Apr 94 p 2

[Text] President Kim Yong-sam yesterday expressed strong displeasure over the illicit election campaigning cases in which his close associates were implicated. Kim also said he was dissatisfied with the way the administration handled the revision of the country schedule of the Uruguay Round world trade pact.

"I had made it clear that this administration will not tolerate any illegality and wrongdoing in elections," the President said in a breakfast meeting with the cabinet members. Some people acquainted with past practices may commit wrongdoings, but (this administration's) commitment to clean elections should not be blemished under any circumstances, Kim said.

Kim made the tough remarks apparently in reference to the controversies created by his own close associates, including Incheon Mayor Choe Ki-son and South Chungchong Province Gov. Pak Tae-kwon.

Choe has already been formally warned by the Central Election Management Committee (CEMC) for distributing umbrellas to Incheon citizens in February. The election watchdog took the action after it concluded

Choe, a former lawmaker, had conducted what amounted to campaigning for next year's local elections.

The CEMC is also investigating similar alleged illegal campaign activities by Pak, also a former member of the national legislature. Choe allegedly sponsored mountain climbing and overseas trips for South Chungchong Province citizens.

Both Choe and Pak were appointed by President Kim, and the opposition Democratic Party has been strongly demanding that Kim fire them.

A top Chongwadae [presidential office] official, however, indicated yesterday that President Kim will not take any punitive action against either Choe or Pak.

"The President's remarks emphasizing clean elections (at yesterday's meeting with the cabinet) should not be interpreted as meaning that he will take action against the two," said Yi Won-chong, the senior presidential secretary for political affairs.

Regarding the dispute over the Uruguay Round country schedule, President Kim urged the cabinet to reveal the truth to the people. "I hardly understand why we should have this kind of a dispute," Kim said. The administration should either seek the people's understanding or make apologies in accordance with the truth, he said.

Prime Minister Yi Hoe-chang expressed his regrets over both the alleged illegal election campaign cases and the Uruguay Round controversy.

Opposition parties and news media have been criticizing the administration on the assumption that the government modified the country schedule in secret, Yi said. "But the Uruguay Round agreement entitles each country to make some changes to the country schedule," he said. The administration did nothing dishonest or immoral because the changes were made in consideration of the interest of farmers, the prime minister said.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Sweden's Bildt Discusses Situation in North Korea

*LD0504175594 Stockholm Radio Sweden in Swedish
1545 GMT 5 Apr*

[Interview with Swedish Prime Minister Carl Bildt, by Bengt Therner in Singapore; date not given—recorded; first paragraph is introduction]

[Text] Premier Carl Bildt, who is on a week-long round trip of East Asia with official visits to Malaysia, Singapore, and Vietnam, says after talks with many political leaders of these countries that he does not want to rule out armed intervention against North Korea. North Korea has obviously misled the rest of the world about its nuclear weapon ambitions, Premier Bildt says.

[Bildt] This is a first-class challenge to one of the cornerstones of the international order (?nuclear non-proliferation) agreement. Should North Korea manage this, to acquire nuclear weapons in spite of all agreements, in spite of the UN, then it is clear that it can then [words indistinct]; Saddam Husayn did not succeed. If Kim Il-song succeeded, then [several words indistinct] and then we can live in a totally different world suddenly.

[Therner] What do you think Kim Il-song's intention is?

[Bildt] It is very difficult to know that. It could be a manifestation of the general desperation about the future which certainly exists (?there).

[Therner] Is there something the international community can do if North Korea chooses to continue on this road?

[Bildt] The international community must find ways to intervene in this and the responsibility here lies with the UN Security Council according to agreements.

[Therner] Even if China does not use its veto against a decision in the Security Council in the end, there are many who doubt the effectiveness of sanctions against a country which is already so isolated.

[Bildt] I do not think there is any reason to exclude any issues the Security Council and its members, not least its permanent members, should discuss regarding a serious situation such as this.

[Therner] Does this mean you do not rule out even an armed intervention?

Premier Carl Bildt, who is on a week-long round trip of East Asia with official visits to Malaysia, Singapore, and Vietnam, says after talks with many political leaders of these countries that he does not want to rule out armed intervention against North Korea. North Korea has

obviously misled the rest of the world about its nuclear weapon ambitions, Premier Bildt says.

[Bildt] This is a first-class challenge to one of the cornerstones of the international order (?nuclear non-proliferation) agreement. Should North Korea manage this, to acquire nuclear weapons in spite of all agreements, in spite of the UN, then it is clear that it can then [words indistinct]; Saddam Husayn did not succeed. If Kim Il-song succeeded, then [several words indistinct] and then we can live in a totally different world suddenly.

[Therner] What do you think Kim Il-song's intention is?

[Bildt] It is very difficult to know that. It could be a manifestation of the general desperation about the future which certainly exists (?there).

[Therner] Is there something the international community can do if North Korea chooses to continue on this road?

[Bildt] The international community must find ways to intervene in this and the responsibility here lies with the UN Security Council according to agreements.

[Therner] Even if China does not use its veto against a decision in the Security Council in the end, there are many who doubt the effectiveness of sanctions against a country which is already so isolated.

[Bildt] I do not think there is any reason to exclude any issues the Security Council and its members, not least its permanent members, should discuss regarding a serious situation such as this.

[Therner] Does this mean you do not rule out even an armed intervention?

[Bildt] In a situation like this, I do not think it is for me to dictate to the members of the Security Council what they are not allowed to do; I think it is more important for me to say that something must be done. Sweden would be isolated politically in Europe if its people rejected European Union (EU) membership in a forthcoming referendum, Swedish Prime Minister Carl Bildt said yesterday.

Opinion polls indicated that a majority of Swedes were not in favour of membership and one survey published late last month showed that 54 percent would vote "no," he told a news conference here.

Mr. Bildt, who has described the decision to enter the EU as the most important for his country this century, said his minority centre-right government would launch a campaign to convince Swedes to opt for membership.

He expressed confidence about a turnaround in attitudes by November when the vote is scheduled.

He said it was essential to build political and security structures that were stable and durable in Europe.

Sweden, Norway, Finland, and Austria are due to join the 12-member EU by January next year following the successful conclusion of negotiations on their terms of membership last month.

Mr. Bildt said that for Sweden and Northern Europe to be outside of such structures would bring "political dangers" in the years ahead.

It was also necessary, he said, to extend such structures to Eastern and Central Europe in the interests of stability.

Otherwise, he warned "developments in the East could go in different directions and they will, in turn, extend instability towards the West five to 10, 15 to 20 years from now."

Mr. Bildt, who arrived from Kuala Lumpur for a day's visit, leaves for Vietnam today. He will go on to Hong Kong from Hanoi.

PRC Foreign Ministry Delegation Arrives 5 Apr

*BK0504100494 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English
0624 GMT 5 Apr 94*

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, April 5 (OANA-BERNAMA)—A Chinese delegation arrived here Tuesday to attend the third bilateral meeting between officials of the foreign ministries of Malaysia and China beginning here Wednesday.

The delegation led by Chinese Vice Foreign Minister Tang Jiaxuan will be here until Thursday.

The informal meeting is a platform for both parties to exchange views and consult one another on bilateral relations and regional and international matters of mutual concern.

Tang is scheduled to call on Foreign Ministry Secretary General Ahmad Kamil Jaafar Wednesday and Foreign Minister Abdullah Haji Ahmad Badawi on Thursday.

Cambodia 'Anxious' for Embassies in ASEAN

*BK0504132594 Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES
in English 4 Apr 94 p 9*

[Excerpts] Kuala Lumpur, Sun—Cambodia is anxious to foster bilateral relations with its ASEAN neighbours and is exploring the possibility of setting up embassies in these countries.

Its Deputy Prime Minister Prince Norodom Sirivut told reporters on arrival for a three-day official visit that Cambodia planned to set up embassy here before proceeding to do so in other ASEAN countries.

Sirivut, who is also minister of foreign affairs and international co-operation, said the embassies were necessary to enable his country to keep abreast the developments in the region, as Cambodia had been isolated since the last 20 years because of civil war.

However, he could not say how soon the plans would materialise as the country's top priority was to revive its economy.

"Ours is a very poor country, we have to revive our economy first before embarking on other plans," he said at the Kuala Lumpur International Airport in Subang on arrival from Phnom Penh.

Foreign Minister Datuk Abdullah Ahmad Badawi was present to greet Sirivut who is leading a 10-man delegation.

Sirivut's visit was on the invitation of Abdullah.

He said that he would be discussing with Abdullah about the possibility of setting up the embassy besides discussing bilateral matters with Malaysian officials.

The visit was also to finalise details of Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir Mohamed's three-day visit to Cambodia from April 14.

The Malaysian prime minister is scheduled to hold discussions on bilateral, regional and international issues with the co-prime ministers of Cambodia, Prince Norodom Ranariddh and Hun Sen.

Dr. Mahathir will then proceed to Laos, also for a three-day visit.

Sirivut said that the people of Cambodia were looking forward to Dr. Mahathir's visit because of Malaysia's role in the peace process.

He said Cambodia had expressed deep gratitude to the government and people of Malaysia who had contributed greatly towards the peace process in the country.

Malaysia, he said, was among the first countries to send troops to serve in the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) whose duty was to organise and monitor the country's first free elections. [Passage omitted]

He said King Norodom Sihanouk has agreed to personally welcome Dr. Mahathir.

Sirivut said Cambodia also welcomed Malaysia's private sector to invest in the country and would seek the government's assistance in its rebuilding.

Cambodia is seeking Malaysia's expertise in various fields including agriculture and tourism.

"We have a lot to learn from Malaysia in our efforts to rebuild our country," he said. [passage omitted]

He is also scheduled to call on Dr. Mahathir Tuesday.

Foreign Minister Meets Cambodia's Sirivut*BK0604054494 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English
0312 GMT 6 Apr 94*

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, April 6 (OANA-BERNAMA)—Malaysia and Cambodia will set up a joint commission to promote reconstruction in the Indochinese country.

Foreign Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi, was announced this yesterday, said the commission was suggested by Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister Prince Norodom Sirivut at their one-hour meeting at the Foreign Ministry here.

Cambodia wanted to tap Malaysia's experience and expertise in agriculture, tourism, extraction of Minerals and petroleum, logging and manpower training, he told reporters after the meeting.

Abdullah said Cambodia also requested Malaysia's help to attract foreign investment.

He said the Malaysian Industrial Development Authority was the most suitable agency to explain Malaysia's investment strategy to the Investment Council of Cambodia.

The Malaysian Economic Planning Unit might also help the Cambodian Development Council on development strategies, he said.

Abdullah also said Malaysia would support Cambodia's participation as an observer in July's ASEAN foreign ministers meeting and the post-ministerial conference in Bangkok as well as the ASEAN regional security forum.

He did not expect any objection from other ASEAN member countries since ASEAN had played a role in bringing peace to Cambodia.

As such, Cambodia's participation in regional conferences should be welcomed, he added.

Cambodia Hails Malaysian Policy Toward Neighbors*BK0604095894 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0800 GMT 6 Apr 94*

[Text] Cambodia will adopt Malaysia's policy of non-confrontation when dealing with neighboring countries on sensitive issues. Its deputy premier, Prince Norodom Sirivut, said his country respects the able and high leadership of Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir Mohamed in dealing with neighbors. He said this at a news conference in Kuala Lumpur at the end of his four-day official visit to Malaysia. In this respect, he said Cambodia would not jeopardize its relations with Thailand and Vietnam in efforts to resolve frontier problems with the two neighbors. He said Cambodia would refer the problems to the ASEAN foreign ministers meeting in Bangkok in July. Cambodia has been invited to the meeting as a guest. But he pointed out that Thailand

should first stop harboring the remnants of the Pol Pot guerrillas along the common border.

He also said Malaysian experience in the rubber and oil and palm oil industries had always impressed Cambodia and his country was eager to learn from Malaysia its experience in rural development.

British Minister Wants Improved Relations*BK0604054694 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English
0308 GMT 6 Apr 94*

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, April 6 (OANA-BERNAMA)—A visiting British minister expressed the hope that it will not be long before the first step is taken towards normalising Anglo-Malaysian relations.

Secretary of State for Education John Patten said effort needed to be made to put mutual relations back into the warm waters.

Malaysia barred British companies from bidding for public sector contracts in February following publication of unsubstantiated allegations of corruption against Malaysian leaders in the British media.

Speaking to reporters at the British Council here a few hours after his arrival yesterday, Patten said he was disappointed by the effect of reports in the British press on the relationship between the two countries.

As Douglas Hurd (British Foreign Secretary) said in the House of Commons last Wednesday, we should not allow the press to come between us, he said.

He said both Hurd and Trade Secretary Richard Needham had made it clear that Britain wished to see a resumption of normal relations as soon as possible.

Patten added Britain would continue to work vigorously to bring about a situation in which the Malaysian Government felt able to lift its ban on public sector contracts for British companies.

Certainly the British press had been pretty quiet on this issue over the last two or three weeks, he said.

Asked about Prime Minister Dr. Mahathir Mohamed's stand on the matter, he said the Malaysian leader had always been a very powerful advocate of Malaysia's case internationally.

He said Dr. Mahathir had made his views known especially in a very striking letter to the FINANCIAL TIMES of London a few weeks ago.

Defense Minister Emphasizes 'Defense Diplomacy'*BK0504145794 Singapore Singapore Broadcasting Corporation in English 1400 GMT 5 Apr 94*

[Text] The defense minister, Dr. Yeo Ning Hong, says Singapore's strong defense must be complemented with

defense diplomacy. This is to ensure that the nation will not stand alone in time of need. He said Singapore will continue to emphasize its active policy of fostering good relations and building open and frank communication with other countries. This would help minimize the prospects of tension and instability. Dr. Yeo made the point in an interview in the latest issue of *ASIAN DEFENSE JOURNAL*. He stressed that a strong defense capability would enable Singapore to deal with exigency which may erupt with little warning.

Turning to the SAF [Singapore Armed Forces] in the year 2000, Dr. Yeo said the organization would be well-placed to face any challenges which may [words indistinct]. The SAF would continue to place emphasis on improving its technological capability which is essential to compensate for Singapore's limited manpower. It will also give the SAF the edge in a modern day battlefield.

Protection of Intellectual Property Rights Assured

BK0604085194 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0544 GMT 6 Apr 94

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, April 6 (OANA-BERNAMA)—Prime Minister Dr. Mahathir Mohamed has assured foreign investors of protection of their intellectual property rights in the country.

The foreign investors can bring their technical know-how to Malaysia secure in the knowledge that the rights would be protected, he said in his message in a special supplement on Malaysia's achievements in technology published in the April issue of the scientific American magazine.

Malaysia would soon introduce the industrial design AIT which would protect the intellectual property of both Malaysian and foreign investors, he said in the message entitled *Technological Competitiveness Towards 2020*.

He also said that with excellent infrastructure, trainable human resources and a congenial business atmosphere, Malaysia offered an outstanding profit centre for high technology business.

Dr. Mahathir said the country already has the Patent Act which encouraged Malaysians to be innovative and inventive.

The sustained high investment in education over many years in Malaysia was paying off, where a vast pool of well-educated men and women was available, he said.

Our workers are highly motivated, trainable and eager to learn while their positive work culture, ethics and attitudes have resulted in the industries being cost-effective and efficient.

Even though wages have been rising steadily, increases in quality and productivity continue to position Malaysia as a very competitive location for many kinds of industries, he said.

Malaysia's political stability was also a positive attraction for investment in the country, he said.

Dr. Mahathir said Malaysia continued to pursue an open philosophy, open to joint ventures and open to contributing Malaysia's share to the technologies brought in and transferred to the country.

In the increasingly competitive global economy, it is imperative that we tap the best available resources, both human intelligence and material, irrespective of where they come from, he said.

Cambodia

Hun Sen Meets China's Deputy Governor

BK0504120194 Phnom Penh AKP in English 1009 GMT 5 Apr 94

[Text] Phnom Penh AKP April 5—Guangdong Province, the People's Republic of China, plans to invest in Cambodia in the fields of industry, agriculture, trade and civil aviation, the visiting Deputy Governor of Guangdong Liu Weiming said.

Liu Weiming who arrived here for an official visit paid a courtesy call to Second Prime Minister Hun Sen Friday and said Guangdong Province was willing to establish raw-material processing factories in Cambodia for both local consumption and export, especially to the Chinese province.

He also asked the Cambodian second prime minister for linking direct flights from Guangdong to Phnom Penh and vice versa so as to facilitate the merchandises' transportation between the two cities.

For his part, Second Prime Minister Hun Sen said Cambodia needs foreign investors and investment must be done on the basis of mutual interests.

The royal government of Cambodia has requested China to help restore a Chinese-built textile factory in Kompong Cham Province which will re-employ 700 Cambodian workers.

With regard to the above request, the delegation of Guangdong pledged to do its best so as to put the textile factory into operation again.

Ranariddh's Remarks Concerning Thailand, KR

BK0504113594 Hong Kong AFP in English 1102 GMT 5 Apr 94

[By Kevin Barrington]

[Text] Phnom Penh, April 5 (AFP)—Thailand helped Pol Pot, the leader of the notorious Khmer Rouge [KR], to flee a recent government offensive on the radical faction's resource rich headquarters at Pailin in north-west Cambodia, Co-premier Prince Norodom Ranariddh said Tuesday.

"Thailand will not be happy with us but we have pictures to prove it," the prince told reporters during a break in the second session of parliament.

"I can show you a picture of Pol Pot, his house being attacked, and Pol Pot escaping with cars and a convoy of trucks driving on a tarmac road inside Thai territory," the prince said.

The prince was adamant that the shadowy guerrilla leader—who was responsible for the Khmer Rouge's 1975 to 1979 reign of terror during which some one million Cambodians died of illness, starvation or execution—escaped through Thai territory.

"It was not inside Cambodia. Cambodia does not have such good smooth roads in that region," he said.

He did not specify how the photos were obtained.

Government forces seized the rebel headquarters and the surrounding resource rich region March 19.

The Khmer Rouge financed their guerrilla organisation by selling logging and mining concessions to primarily Thai business consortiums, many of which are believed to be controlled by or have links with the Thai military.

The Thai consortiums that were working in the Pailin area were eager for the government to honour contracts they signed with the guerrillas.

The prince, however, was evasive on this issue.

"Before talking about any kinds of contracts we need to have regional security from both sides ... we need to request that Thailand consider us as the one legitimate government," he said.

Although Bangkok has said it recognised the royal government and did not support the Khmer Rouge in any way, recent actions cast this into doubt.

The prince criticised the Thai government for not consulting Phnom Penh about the fate of some 25,000 refugees, most of whom were the family members of guerrillas, who fled to Thailand from Pailin.

The government wanted Thailand to give the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) or the Red Cross access to the refugees in order to give them a choice whether they wanted to return to government or Khmer Rouge controlled areas in Cambodia.

"Where did the Thais send these people? They sent them to the place the Khmer Rouge decided they should go" the prince said.

The prince said he had "lowered himself" to meet with Khmer Rouge nominal leader Khieu Samphan to discuss a peace proposal put forward by his father King Norodom Sihanouk.

But while Khieu Samphan was expressing his support for the peace proposal, Khmer Rouge guerrillas attacked a

former stronghold of the Prince's party in northwest Cambodia and burnt down 265 homes, he said.

"If we don't attack them they will attack us," the prince said, adding:

"But the government's stand is that the door is still open to the Khmer Rouge."

He said talks were still possible but they would have to take place in a different "mood" as the guerrillas had lost bargaining power since the government forces now controlled Pailin and had pushed the Khmer Rouge out of another major base at Anlung Veng in northern Cambodia.

Meanwhile co-Defence Minister Tie Banh refused to comment on reports that the government was planning to attack a Khmer Rouge base at Phnom Malai some 70 kilometers (44 miles) north of Pailin.

"We cannot say when we will attack because we cannot arrange military schedules like some festival programme," he said.

Khmer Rouge Releases 18 Government Soldiers

BK0204143924 Bangkok Thai Color Television Channel 9 in Thai 1200 GMT 2 Apr 94

[Text] Foreign Minister Squadron Leader Prasong Sun-siri reported that 18 Cambodian Government soldiers, who were captured by the Khmer Rouge during a battle in an area opposite Ban Khlong Lock, Aranyaprathet District of Sakaeo Province, were released at 1530 today. The Phnom Penh Government asked Thailand to provide convenience for officials of international organizations to cross into the Khmer Rouge-controlled area to bring back the soldiers. The Thai Government agreed with the request as it is for a humanitarian purpose. The Foreign Minister said the Thai Government would not approve Khmer Rouge requests on other matters.

Ranariddh Discusses Current Situation

BK0604091194 Phnom Penh National Radio of Cambodia Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 5 Apr 94

[Interview with Prince Krompreah Norodom Ranariddh, first prime minister of the Royal Government of Cambodia, by a TV and Radio Cambodia correspondent on 5 April; place not given—recorded]

[Summary from poor reception] [Correspondent] Highness, I represent the national TV and Radio Cambodia Network. Concerning the peace and security question, the general public has asked why there is insufficient stability in the country despite the fact that the Royal Government of Cambodia [RGC] has been set up for months as the legitimate government of the country?

[Ranariddh] "Thank you. First, I would like to thank you, who represent the national tv and radio network, for interviewing me today on questions that are of concern

not only to the people and Buddhist monks in general but also to His Majesty our august king, who continues to closely follow developments in the Kingdom of Cambodia, especially the on-going bloodshed between Cambodians.

"The government is not happy with the current situation despite the fact that the so-called general war has been transformed into a mere state of insurgency. The RGC is not pleased at all with this insurgency war. Compared with the overall peaceful situation of the country, however, we see that this insurgency is very marginal. Nevertheless, the concern of His Majesty the king as well as that of the general public is most understandable. And it is the responsibility of the RGC, for the duty of the RGC born out of the elections is to seek peace and security for the people."

In addition to this question of peace, there is the Khmer Rouge problem. As first prime minister of the RGC, I would like to inform the public of the following: I am very saddened by what is happening between us and the Khmer Rouge. We still have this Khmer Rouge problem to solve although we already held elections, reintroduced the monarchy, formed the RGC, and wrote the Constitution. After being nominated prime minister, I agreed to make so many concessions to the Khmer Rouge. Some of my cabinet ministers even criticized me for tarnishing the prestige of the legal, elected government by consenting to meet with Khieu Samphan. "They said: Khieu Samphan has never officially recognized you as prime minister. He always addresses you only as chairman of FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia]." But I still agreed to meet with him. This shows that the RGC and I have never hesitated in trying to put an end to the conflict between Cambodians.

We have always supported His Majesty the king's five-point proposal for peace, a proposal which demands that the Khmer Rouge dissolve their army, a cease-fire be declared, and the Khmer Rouge be included in the government if they wish. When I talked to Khieu Samphan, he said these conditions were designed by the Vietnamese. I just mentioned above that these conditions were proposed by His Majesty, but Khieu Samphan insisted they were proposed instead by the Vietnamese.

Another of our concessions is that we always refer to the Khmer Rouge as PDK or Party of Democratic Kampuchea. While we recognize the PDK, the PDK never recognizes the RGC. "The Khmer Rouge said they want to become government advisers or government members, but they have refused to recognize the RGC. This shows that they are not sincere." When I proposed to Khieu Samphan that there should be a cease-fire first, he answered no. He said: How can there be a cease-fire if the Vietnamese continue to attack us? "So, the Khmer Royal Armed Forces [KRAF] have no choice but to continue the struggle. The Khmer Rouge do not consider us as Cambodians, but as Vietnamese. Therefore, we have to fight them."

As I have already mentioned above, the PDK does not recognize the RGC. They keep talking about the quadripartite setup. This quadripartite setup is outdated. The four parties no longer existed after the elections. There is now only the RGC born out of the elections. The three parties forming the RGC cannot be regarded as separate entities. They already form the RGC. So, there are only the RGC and the PDK.

I tell you of all this to show that the RGC is sincere in seeking to solve the problem. In spite of everything, we are always prepared to follow the instruction of His Majesty our king. If His Majesty wants us to talk with the Khmer Rouge today, we will talk with them today. "Although the KRAF have won great successes at Anlung Veng and Pailin, we are still prepared to talk. Some said that Anlung Veng was a defeat for us. Let me tell you that the RGC did order the KRAF to pull out of Anlung Veng. Why? Because Anlung Veng is no longer a town. [Khmer Rouge commander] Ta Mok burned down everything there. How could we stay in a burned out location and wait to be bombarded from the outside? The objective of the KRAF was to prevent the Khmer Rouge from using Anlung Veng as their economic, political, and military base from which to launch attacks against Siem Reap." In this goal, we were 100 percent successful.

Concerning Pailin, before our campaign many people were very harsh with the KRAF, saying they were not capable of ending the Pailin tragedy, unable to stop the region from being raped and the Sangke river from being soiled. Now that we have attacked Pailin, they still criticize us, saying we are responsible for bloodshed. Allow me to stress here that this is our duty, the duty of the KRAF. Our constitution pointedly forbids secession of any part of our motherland. The KRAF have done their job and have upheld the Constitution.

Once again, I would like to emphasize that we are always ready to comply if His Majesty the king instructs us to hold talks with the Khmer Rouge. Moreover, of the estimated \$1 billion, \$585 million has already been spent. The people could not believe that so much money has been spent on Cambodia and nothing concrete has been achieved. Let me tell you, this international aid was slotted for technical assistance. It could not be translated into cars, tractors, or equipment. But mind you, the UN Development Program is in full control of this aid. The people should not worry that the government will mishandle aid at all.

"In my opinion, what we need is not arms. What we need is a better life for the people. When the people have food, clothes, schools, medicines, roads, running water, electricity, and employment for the youths, when the people's living standard has improved, the problem of insurgency will be completely solved."

[Correspondent] [Question indistinct]

[Ranariddh] Thank you again for reminding me of this issue. I would like to take this opportunity to recall that

for 23 years we have been through so many wars, many killings, many destructions. It would take us another 10 years to become as prosperous as we were under Sangkum Reas Niyum [Sihanouk's pre-1970 ruling party]. "Nonetheless, the RGC is striving hard to set the foundation and this foundation is underground, invisible to the eyes. Yet, we need a strong foundation in order to build a sturdy house." This is not an easy job. We have to revise, to rationalize the structure. We have hundreds of thousands of state employees to manage and reorganize and we must reform our legal system to cope with new national requirements. It all will take a lot of time. Priority should be given to so many domains, such as education and the infrastructure. However, to achieve that we need favorable conditions: security and social stability.

Under the current circumstances, some of us believe that we are wanting in security and stability. I have just returned from Europe and countries over there think differently. They marveled at our capability to achieve and maintain peace. Before leaving for Europe, I was a little worried that they might stop caring about what is happening in Cambodia. Giving us \$773 million already shows how sympathetic and kind they are toward us. But the international community still cares about us because they have seen that we are serious about trying to help ourselves. In the economic field, they see that we have market stability, a stable riel currency, and an inflation rate below 10 percent. Our main concern now is with agriculture. I have informed the international community that they should give less attention to spending their aid on training our cadres. I just told the Americans that we received too much training; instead, what we Cambodians want to see are tractors, excavators, and water pumps. We should not make a fuss about technical training. Months have passed and nothing concrete, except for the Cambodia-Japan friendship bridge, has been visible. And already \$585 million of the aid has been spent, just on training. Those people who are misinformed will surely believe that Ranariddh and Hun Sen have lined their pockets with all that money. So, I have urged the donors not to spend too much money on training.

[Correspondent] As head of the RGC, what is your impression on the plight of the refugees forced to flee across the border in the wake of the large-scale government operations against Pailin?

[Ranariddh] I do not have enough words to comment on this matter. We are very concerned about the refugees' well-being. Seeing the young and old people turned into war refugees after months have elapsed since the formation of the RGC is heart-rending. I have ordered our Red Cross to be prepared to take good care of the refugees. In my opinion, the right procedure should be to request the UNHCR [UN High Commissioner for Refugees] and the ICRC [International Committee of the Red Cross] to take charge of the refugees. They should be in a position to allow the refugees to decide where they want to go and then provide them with the means to go there. This,

however, was not what happened when our refugees fled from Pailin into Thailand. The Thais said they recognize the RGC. So, I said, we should hold talks at governmental level. I proposed that the UNHCR and the ICRC interview the refugees and help take them to where they want to go. If a sanctuary is needed, then we will set up one. But the Thai authorities, without informing us, instead forcibly repatriated our people to a region known to be under the control of the Khmer Rouge. "This does not conform with what the Thai authorities repeatedly assured me when I returned from Tokyo, that is, that they recognize only the RGC. They said: We do not help the Khmer Rouge. Highness, please believe us. What they just did, however, belies this assurance."

I have learned that some of the refugees said they wanted to go back to Kompong Cham where they first came from. I have also learned from Battambang that a few of the forcibly repatriated refugees had escaped from that area and revealed to us that hundreds more wanted to flee. I ordered our authorities to do their best to contact and help them out.

At least, we should give a free choice to the refugees to go where they want to go. Madame Ogata of the UNHCR and the ICRC have always been prepared to assist the refugees.

The press are closely watching the government's record on press freedom since the editor of a local newspaper was arrested. What is your comment?

[Ranariddh] "Thank you for raising this issue. It reminds me of an incident. This morning AFP wrote that I had claimed to be in possession of a picture clearly showing Pol Pot escaping in a car on a road inside Thailand. I would like to make it clear now before there is further misunderstanding by emphasizing that I really have a picture, but it is a picture taken by our agent showing a convoy of trucks transporting Khmer Rouge soldiers with pots, pans, and other belongings riding on a road in Thai territory from an area near Pailin to another area. I have this picture, but I have never said I have a picture of Pol Pot. I have a picture of Pol Pot's troops being transported, but not a picture of Pol Pot. I would be very happy to own one because Japan has promised to give \$1 million to any person who can produce a picture of Pol Pot. So, I do not have a picture of Pol Pot, but I have a picture showing Pol Pot's men fleeing. I have to make this clear so that AFP will not report something that I did not say. However, I did stress that such a tarmac road with a white dividing line in the middle does not exist in the Pailin region. Where else can this road be?"

Yesterday, our Parliament was debating a press bill in conformity with our Constitution. Our local press seem to be not very happy with the present state of press freedom in the country. The French press are even more strident in their protest. But what we are talking about here is only a bill yet to be passed by Parliament. We should not compare ours with the press freedom of the

French who have had theirs since 1789. Moreover, we have a lot of things in this bill that the French do not have, such as a clause protecting the journalist profession for Cambodian citizens, and so on.

Nevertheless, I am more concerned about the question of security than press freedom. There should be limits to all our undertakings. I told the cabinet meeting yesterday that His Majesty the king had sent us letter after letter urging us not to deprive this journalist of his right. However, while we must have a law on press freedom, we also must have some restrictions. A foreign newspaper said that I have gagged the national TV and radio network. You have my word, I have never asked His Excellency Ieng Muli or any other personalities to curb the TV and radio comments at all. I only once urged everybody not to make excessive additional comments on events, not to put words in other people's mouths. For that I have been accused of gagging the media.

I swear I have never told His Excellency Ieng Muli to cover anything up. I only begged for cooperation in respecting press freedom and also the right of other people. The press should be informative, educational, and useful to society. At the same time, the press should support the RGC in its difficult mission of rehabilitating the nation. This is my appeal to the press. I am proud that our country, after years of wars, has now entered a very liberal period. I hope that the press will have a high national conscience to transcend that liberal stage, become the pride of the nation, and refrain from spawning what is known as diplomatic incidents.

VGNUFC Reports Detailed Pailin Situation

Battlefield Report: 30 Mar-2 Apr

BK0504142494 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian
2330 GMT 4 Apr 94

[Text] Here is an additional report on the Pailin battlefield from 30 March to 2 April. During these days:

1. Our forces continued to block the entire Sala Krau-Kon Damrei route. The invading forces were completely cut off from their communications and supplies.

2. The entire route north of Pailin remained disconnected. The invading forces tried hard to contact their colleagues by travelling in small groups on foot through the jungle. We kept attacking them, though, and they also hit our land mines, suffering continuous losses. The survivors fled, leaving ammunition, dried food, and medicine along the way. Some fled into the dense forests. No one knows whether or not they are still alive.

3. On 1 April, we launched four attacks on the invading forces along a stretch of road from Veal Cheng to Sala Krau, killing 18 of them on the spot and wounding others.

4. The road from Sala Krau to O Rum-el was blocked by our forces in several places. On 2 April, we attacked the invading forces fleeing from the western part of Sala Krau in waves, killing 42 of them.

5. We are continuing to cut off the invading forces from all corners, and are waiting in the bamboo forests to smash them. They only have a small number of tanks left. These tanks do not dare to dash about and launch operations. They are in hiding, fearful that we will smash them.

6. Every day, we cut off the stretch of road from Suosdei to Chisang and Treng. The battle is continuing within the perimeter of Pailin and along the communications lines the invading forces are trying to use to send supplies to their colleagues within the perimeter of Pailin. The invading forces cannot bring their dead or wounded colleagues out because they cannot get there either on foot or by air. More puppet soldiers are continuing to desert the Pailin battlefield for fear of being killed.

Battlefield report: 4-5 April

BK0604075294 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian
2330 GMT 5 Apr 94

[Text] Here is an additional report on the Pailin battlefield from 4 to 5 April:

1. On 4 April, the invading forces sent 400 troops and some tanks to rescue 600 of their colleagues trapped in the western part of Pailin. We attacked them continuously—shooting, detonating mines, and lobbing hand grenades at them along the trails in the thick bamboo forests. We killed 36 of them, including a general commander, and wounded some others. We destroyed two trucks. The survivors who fled through the bamboo forests were bruised by the bamboo thorns; their faces and bodies were bruised and their clothes were torn. Some lost their way and are still fumbling their way out of the forests. Others were killed or wounded by stepping on land mines planted in the bamboo forests by the Vietnamese.

2. On 5 April, the invading forces mobilized troops to blaze a trail from Boeng Pra-lit to O Rum-el through the bamboo forests. We ambushed them there. We ambushed them 12 times along an 8 km stretch. We killed 19 of them, wounded some others, and destroyed two trucks. Some retreated along the trail and some fled in disarray into the bamboo forests. No one knows how many were killed or wounded or how many were bruised by the bamboo thorns.

The fighting on 4 and 5 April took place mostly on small trails inside thick bamboo forests within the perimeter and in the western part of Pailin.

3. On 4 April, we completely swept the invading forces from Bos S'am, north of Pailin. We killed nine of them and wounded 16 others. The survivors fled in great panic into the forests.

4. On 4 and 5 April, we surrounded and attacked Sala Krau. The invading forces were in great panic. We killed 27 of them and wounded some others. The survivors fled in disarray into the forests.

(Lay Veareak), commander of the 12th Division in charge of Sala Krau, whose field radio code name is Satan, fled north toward Kon Damrei along with 100 soldiers. He stripped off his uniform to hide his identity as a general. It is generally known that (Lay Veareak) has always been a bandit chieftain operating on the border in the Poipet-Sisophon zone.

5. Also on 4 April, we opened fire on a car—a French Renault—and set it ablaze near Boeng Pra-lit.

6. On the morning of 5 April, one of the invading forces' tanks ran over a land mine and broke down near Pang Roloem on Route 10.

Government Troops Said To Seize Khmer Rouge Base

BK0504065694 Hong Kong AFP in English 1152 GMT 4 Apr 94

[Text] Phnom Penh, April 4 (AFP)—Government forces killed eight Khmer Rouge and wounded 11 others when they overran a guerrilla division base near the radical faction's former headquarters of Pailin in northwest Cambodia, the state news agency AKP said Monday.

The troops captured the guerrillas' 450 Division base in the troubled Bavel district of Battambang province in the operation last Thursday after an hour-long fight in which three government soldiers were wounded, AKP said.

A guerrilla ammunition store, a vehicle and 20 huts were burnt by the troops, who also took four prisoners and seized an unspecified quantity of weapons, it said.

The capture of the division base near Prey Kpos in Bavel district came as another blow to Khmer Rouge, on the heels of the loss of the ultra-nationalists' headquarters at Pailin on March 19.

Western defence attaches said a Khmer Rouge division can consist of anything from just 100 to several hundred men.

The guerrillas in the Bavel area staged recent hit-and-run attacks which government officers described as diversionary strikes aimed at forcing the army to pull back men from Pailin.

Cabinet Session Approves Press Code, Other Bills

BK0604050294 Phnom Penh National Radio of Cambodia Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 5 Apr 94

["Press communique" issued by the Royal Government Spokesman's Office in Phnom Penh on 5 April—read by announcer]

[Text] A cabinet plenary session was held on the morning of 4 April at the Cabinet Office under the chairmanship of His Royal Highness Prince Krompreah Norodom Ranariddh, first prime minister of the Royal Government of Cambodia [RGC], and Second Prime Minister Samdech Hun Sen. The session examined a bill on the press code, a bill on the organization and operation of the cabinet, and a bill on urbanization and the infrastructure.

1. The bill on the press code:

Following thorough discussion, the cabinet approved this bill, which has four chapters and 20 articles on freedom of the press and publication as defined in Article 41 of the Kingdom of Cambodia [KOC] Constitution and Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, stipulating the freedoms and responsibilities of the press in a multiparty liberal democratic society.

Although the KOC has just achieved peace and political stability, and even though the RGC has yet to solve many difficult and complex problems involving national rehabilitation and reconstruction, the cabinet was very pleased with its approval of this bill, which provides greater freedom than other countries in the world that have a long tradition of the press.

The cabinet also expressed its firm conviction that by approving this bill, the Royal Government will certainly receive more active and effective cooperation from press organizations in the restoration and development of Cambodia, in the process of strengthening peace and political stability, and in promoting democracy and respect for human rights.

2. The bill on the organization and operation of the cabinet:

The cabinet thoroughly examined, discussed, and approved the bill on the organization and operation of the cabinet, which has six chapters and 38 articles. Its aim is to improve the administrative structure in line with the KOC Constitution, which stipulates the need for a clear separation of executive, legislative, and judicial organizations. This law also serves as a very important basis for use by various ministries, departments, and state institutions as a legal criterion in arranging their organizational structures and determining their roles and tasks.

3. The bill on urbanization and construction:

The cabinet also discussed and approved this bill, which consists of four chapters and 25 articles. With the current situation in the KOC, this is a very essential and necessary law for promoting urban and rural restructuring and ensuring a harmonious development effort in the spirit of respecting collective interests, individual rights and interests, and the legal regulations governing construction. It will also ensure development aimed at securing a balance between the cities and the rural areas based on the prevailing situation and peculiarities of each area, while ensuring protection for and increasing the value of natural and cultural assets and engaging in the development of tourism by preserving environmental quality.

The cabinet concluded its session in a spirit of unity and with a high sense of responsibility.

[Dated] Phnom Penh, 5 April 1994

Indonesia

Summit Meeting Held With Netherlands in Jakarta

Suharto Meets Lubbers for Talks

BK0504122894 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0700 GMT 5 Apr 94

[Excerpts] President Suharto and Netherlands Prime Minister Ruud Lubbers held talks at Merdeka Palace in Jakarta this morning. Minister/State Secretary Mardiono briefed newsmen on the outcome of the talks between the two leaders.

[Begin Mardiono recording] As scheduled, President Suharto held talks with his guest Ruud Lubbers this morning. President Suharto was accompanied by the minister/state secretary and the foreign minister, while Prime Minister Lubbers was accompanied by the Netherlands foreign minister. The talks, which covered a wide range of topics, lasted for quite some time. Here is a summary of what they discussed:

The talks concentrated on bilateral, regional, and international issues. President Suharto gave a general explanation of Indonesia's development proposals, strategy, and target under the first 25-year long-term development master plan which has been completed, and the development target under the second long-term development master plan. President Suharto explained to Lubbers in detail about our national development achievements so far which provided a basis to enter the next development phase, which is known locally as the take-off period. This period is known as the second era of national awakening. The president also explained in detail our achievements in creating and maintaining national stability to support economic growth and to provide an equal distribution of wealth to the people.

Prime Minister Lubbers expressed high appreciation for Indonesia's development achievements during the talks

with President Suharto. He was amazed by President Suharto's ability to provide accurate figures on all topics.

The head of state also briefed Lubbers on Indonesia's ideas on the role of the Nonaligned Movement, NAM, and the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation, APEC. Meanwhile, Lubbers also told President Suharto about developments taking place in Europe.

After explaining in detail Indonesia's development achievements so far and the government's plans for the future, President Suharto then invited Netherlands businessmen to participate in infrastructure development such as the construction of an electric generating station, and telecommunications and port facilities here on a build, operate, transfer basis because Indonesia has a limited capability to develop such areas of infrastructure independently. President Suharto also asked Netherlands investors to set up joint ventures with Indonesian businessmen by utilizing resources available in the country. He said the products can be marketed in Europe as well as in the Asia-Pacific region. [passage omitted]

Also today, President Suharto offered the Netherlands, a developed country, to contribute efforts to solve the foreign debt problem faced by Third World nations. [passage omitted]

President Suharto also extended an invitation to the Netherlands to join South-South cooperation, which according to his own concept is within the framework of tripartite cooperation. Briefly, it is difficult to promote cooperation among countries in the South due to limited funds available in some countries. Indonesia has vast experience in achieving self-sufficiency in rice production and it has accordingly offered to share its experience with several African countries. This is intended to enable African farmers to know clearly about what we do here, and it will be possible if they come to Indonesia and live with our farmers. However, Africa does not have enough funds to send its farmers here and at the same time we cannot afford to bring them here. Under such a situation, we hope that a third party—a developed country—will sponsor the program. This is what President Suharto meant by tripartite cooperation.

In his response, Prime Minister Lubbers said that the Netherlands is willing to promote bilateral cooperation in the fields of economy and investment because his country has the capability to do so. At the same time, Lubbers also said that there should be cooperation between the Navies of the two countries, both in ship-building technology as well as in training personnel. President Suharto welcomed this idea and reiterated that Indonesia is determined to give high priority to economic development besides paying attention to developing security and defense.

At the start of their talks, Prime Minister Lubbers conveyed greetings from Queen Beatrix to President Suharto. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Suharto Hosts Banquet

BK0504155594 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 1500 GMT 5 Apr 94

[Text] President Suharto says economic globalization which has drastically changed the patterns of production, trade, and finance is being accompanied by the emergence of large economic groups among developed nations. This has in turn led to protectionism, discriminatory practices, and unhealthy competition. President Suharto said this during a state dinner banquet in honor of Netherlands Prime Minister and Mrs. Ruud Lubbers at the State Palace in Jakarta tonight. Accordingly, the head of state called for efforts to narrow the economic gap between the North and the South through constructive international cooperation, consultations, and dialogue.

Touching on human rights, President Suharto said Indonesia and fellow nonaligned nations as well as other developing nations have on various occasions voiced a clear united stand on the matter. According to the head of state, all nations must protect and promote human rights through international cooperation on the basis of equality.

In a return speech, Prime Minister Ruud Lubbers said he regarded Asia as a fast-growing important region. The varied traditional characteristics and assets of Asian nations are a factor that has contributed to the current growth of the region. The prime minister added that Indonesia plays an important role in developing ASEAN, attaching importance to South-South relations, and contributing to the emergence of new economies in the region.

An exchange of souvenirs took place before the state dinner banquet. The Netherlands prime minister and his wife presented President and Mrs. Suharto with an ancient wall clock made in 1880 and a porcelain fruit container. In return, President and Mrs. Suharto gave Prime Minister and Mrs. Ruud Lubbers an animal carving, books on Indonesia, batik shirts and material, and a set of silver handicrafts.

Foreign Debt Nearing Critical \$100 Billion

BK0604075594 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0600 GMT 6 Apr 94

[Text] Indonesia's foreign debt—which has already reached \$90 billion, or about 180 trillion rupiah—should be given serious attention because it is nearing \$100 billion. Speaking at a seminar on the national economic situation in Jakarta, Saleh Afiff, coordinating minister for economy, finance, and development supervision, warned that when the foreign debt exceeds this level, it will have a psychological impact in the form of decreasing confidence by donor nations in giving additional loans to Indonesia.

According to the minister, the government has set a ceiling for commercial loans. The private sector is

expected to manage their loans in accordance with the government ceiling, set in 1991. The ceiling is about 10 trillion rupiah for five years. Because the level of soft loans and export credits is still within normal limits, the government is optimistic that it can continue to meet its debt servicing obligations on time.

Official Wants Investment in 'Strategic Minerals'

BK0604103794 Jakarta ANTARA in English 1902 GMT 5 Apr 94

[Text] Jakarta, April 5 (ANTARA)—The investment in the non-oil/gas mining accounted only for 3.8 percent of the total investment of 415.4 trillion rupiah in the period of 1967 to March 1994.

The investment in the minerals processing sector reached 7.4 percent, or 31 trillion rupiah, head of the Investment Coordinating Agency (BKPM) Sanyoto told a seminar on the Role and Prospects of Private Capital Investment in the development of the mining sector in the second long term development (PJP II), in Jakarta Tuesday.

He explained that investment in mining other than in the oil/gas sector consisted of mining of strategic minerals, vital minerals and C-category minerals.

Strategic minerals including tin, iron ore and copper are for domestic capital investment of 1.4 trillion rupiah (11 projects), 7.8 trillion rupiah for foreign capital investment, and domestic investment of 187.7 billion rupiah (19 projects) in the vital minerals sector including coal, and 5.2 trillion rupiah for foreign investment.

In the meantime, the C-category minerals such as phosphate and zeolit covered 99 projects with a total domestic investment of 871.4 billion rupiah, and one project with foreign investment of 64.6 billion rupiah.

The investment in the mineral mining industrial sector outside oil and gas, such as non-metal minerals (cement, ceramics, glass and marble) amounted to 24.8 trillion rupiah for domestic investment projects and 6.2 trillion rupiah for foreign investment projects.

Sanyoto said further that in the Sixth Five-Year Development (Pelita VI), foreign and domestic investment may reach 19.9 trillion rupiah.

The projection is to help collect investment funds amounting to 660 trillion rupiah needed to boost the economic growth rate of 6.2 percent per year during Pelita VI, he said.

In this context the government has taken steps to improve the investment climate in Indonesia by simplifying the process of licencing of investment projects, the lowering of import duties and the simplification of import procedures.

He said with a clear-cut and transparent capital investment policy, it is hoped the investors will become increasingly enthusiastic in doing business in this country.

"This is of vital importance, because in attracting foreign investment Indonesia has to compete with other countries which are also offering their business facilities," he added.

Laos

Summit Meeting Held With Australia in Vientiane

Australian Prime Minister Arrives

BK0504140294 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 5 Apr 94

[Excerpts] In response to an invitation from His Excellency [H.E.] Khamtai Siphandon, prime minister of our Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], at 1700 today H.E. Paul Keating, prime minister of the Commonwealth of Australia, his wife, and a high-level delegation of the Australian Government arrived in Vientiane via special plane for a two-day official, friendly visit to our country. H.E. Paul Keating, his wife, and delegation were welcomed upon their arrival at Wattai Airport by H.E. Khamtai Siphandon, prime minister of the LPDR, and his wife; H.E. Khamphoui Keotoulapha, deputy prime minister and chairman of the Planning and Cooperation Committee; Somsavat Lengsavat, minister of foreign affairs; Osakan Thammatheva, minister of information and culture; Seun Phetsanghan, deputy minister of communications, transport, posts, and construction; Bouason Boupphavan, deputy minister attached to the Prime Minister's Office; Thongsavat Bouppha, deputy minister of foreign affairs; and Vang Lattanavong, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the LPDR to Australia; along with cadres concerned and a large crowd of Vientiane residents. [passage omitted on details of welcoming ceremony]

After the official welcoming ceremony, H.E. Prime Minister Khamtai Siphandon and his wife led H.E. Australian Prime Minister Paul Keating, his wife, and delegation from Wattai Airport in a motorcade to the government guest houses in Vientiane capital.

At 1900, H.E. Paul Keating, together with his wife and party, paid a courtesy call on H.E. Nouhak Phoumsavan, president of the LPDR, at Hokham Hall in the Presidential Office. Later, at 1930, Keating, his wife, and party are scheduled to attend a banquet organized in their honor at the Prime Minister's Office in Vientiane by H.E. Khamtai Siphandon and his wife.

President Receives Keating

BK0604104394 Vientiane KPL in English 0802 GMT 6 Apr 94

[Text] Vientiane, April 6 (KPL)—Lao PDR [Lao People's Democratic Republic] President Nouhak Phoumsavan yesterday evening received the visiting prime minister of Australia, honourable Paul Keating, and his party.

The Australian prime minister and his party were accompanied by Lao Foreign Minister Somsavat Lengsavat.

During the meeting lasting about 30 minutes, President Nouhak Phoumsavan expressed pleasure to see the Australian prime minister and his party visiting the country. He said the visit was of historic significance in the Lao-Australian relations and cooperation, laying a basis for the immediate and long-term bilateral relationship and cooperation, and contributing to peace, stability, and cooperation in South-east Asia and in the world.

The Lao president highly valued the growing Lao-Australian relations and cooperation and believed that these relations would be further broadened and more fruitful for the interest of the two countries. He thanked the Australian government and people for their economic assistance to Laos in building communication infrastructure, training Lao technicians in various fields, and in community development and other projects, especially the friendship Mekong river bridge project. All these symbolized the fruitful relations and cooperation between Laos and Australia.

On his part, the Australian prime minister expressed pleasure over a warm hospitality the Lao Government and people had given to him and his party. He was pleased to have visited the Lao PDR, which affirmed the relationship and cooperation between the two countries following the visit to Australia by Prime Minister Khamtai Siphandon in December last year. He said Australia and Laos have had their good diplomatic relations for more than forty years and affirmed that he would do his best to expand and make the bilateral relations more fruitful.

The Australian prime minister added that Australia would continue its support and assistance to Laos that beginning from this year the Australian government will establish a four-year specific aid project for Laos at a cost of as one million to be time [as received] will mobilize Australian businessmen in various sectors to invest in the country, such as in agriculture, communication, mining and others.

PASASON Welcomes Visit

BK0604082294 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 5 Apr 94

[Editorial from 5 April PASASON: "Wholeheartedly Salute and Welcome the Commonwealth of Australia Government Delegation"]

[Text] In response to an invitation from His Excellency [H.E.] Khamtai Siphandon, prime minister of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], H.E. Paul Keating, prime minister of the Commonwealth of Australia, will lead a Commonwealth of Australia Government delegation on an official, friendly visit to the LPDR on 5 April. The multiethnic Lao people throughout the country—elated at this event, which is significant in Lao-Australian relations—feel greatly honored to have the opportunity to welcome the Commonwealth of Australia Government delegation.

This official, friendly visit to the LPDR by the prime minister of the Commonwealth of Australia and his delegation follows the official, friendly visit to the Commonwealth of Australia by H.E. Khamtai Siphandon in mid-December 1993. The visit is considered a new and significant event since the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries over four decades ago. This visit to the LPDR by the prime minister of the Commonwealth of Australia and his delegation reflects the Australian people's good friendship with the multiethnic Lao people. It is also considered a very significant event in the history of relations between the two countries. It will, therefore, serve as a firm basis for strengthening friendly relations and cooperation effectively in the immediate and long terms in the interest of the peoples of Laos and Australia, thus contributing to the common trend for the establishment and promotion of peace, stability, friendship, and cooperation among various countries in this region and the rest of the world.

Laos and Australia have maintained good relations for a long time. Over the past 10 years or so, the two sides have made efforts to promote relations in various fields. It is noteworthy that following the visit to Australia by H.E. Prime Minister Khamtai Siphandon, Lao-Australian relations have developed ever more extensively and rapidly. On this occasion, the multiethnic Lao people would like to express their profound gratitude to the Australian Government and people for the significant support and assistance they have rendered to the Lao Government and people in building and developing the LPDR's economy and society, especially in building the communications infrastructure, training technicians in various branches, and developing communities. The assistance in the construction of the Friendship Bridge, which serves as a good token of the friendly relations and fruitful cooperation between Laos and Australia, is noteworthy.

We wish H.E. Paul Keating, prime minister of the Commonwealth of Australia, and his party glorious success in this official, friendly visit to the LPDR. Its success which will contribute to further promoting and expanding relations and cooperation between the two countries ever more fruitfully for the benefit of the peoples of Laos and Australia.

President Receives Vietnamese Vice Prime Minister

BK0604110794 Vientiane KPL in English 0808 GMT 6 Apr 94

[Text] Vientiane, April 6 (KPL)—Lao PDR [Lao People's Democratic Republic] President Nouthak Phoumsavan, yesterday afternoon received at the Presidential Palace Mr. Phan Van Khai, Vietnamese deputy prime minister, president of the Vietnamese-Lao Cooperation Committee, who is on official visit here.

Mr. Nouthak Phoumsavan welcomed Mr. Phan Van Khai and delegation and hailed the visit of the delegation, adding that it was another step for the reinforcement of the special friendship and all-faceted cooperation between the two countries. The visit, the Lao president said, was an act of furthering the traditional ties between the two people. Vietnamese Deputy Prime Minister Phan Van Khai thanked the president and the Lao side for the warm welcome and hospitality reserved for the delegation. He was pleased to see the forever increasing step of development of the relations of special friendship and cooperation between Vietnam and Laos.

The Vietnamese delegation's mission here was to attend the 16th session of the committees for economic, cultural, scientific and technical cooperation between Laos and Vietnam.

The committees met on April 4 to review their past performances. Heading (?the Lao side was) Khamphoui Keobualapha, deputy prime minister, president of the Committee for Planning and Cooperation. The discussion dealt on the (?achievements in) the cooperation between the two countries. The sides also exchanged views on cooperation issues for 1994. They studied the overall cooperation mechanism in economic, cultural, scientific and technical fields. Principles governing Vietnamese experts working in Laos and cooperation strategies between the two countries from now till the year 2000 were also studied.

Philippines

Ramos Urges DPRK To Accept Nuclear Inspections

BK0604080894 Quezon City PTV-4 Television Network in English 0637 GMT 6 Apr 94

[Weekly news conference by President Fidel V. Ramos with domestic and foreign correspondents at Malacanang Palace in Manila—live]

[Excerpt] Ladies and gentlemen, let me first issue a statement on the situation in the Korean peninsula:

The Philippines views with serious concern the categorical rejection by the Government of the Democratic Republic of Korea [as heard] of the appeal made by the United Nations Security Council in its non-binding call

to Pyongyang, issued last week, to give the International Atomic Energy Agency, IAEA, full access to its nuclear sites. We call on the Pyongyang government to favorably consider the request of the United Nations Security Council.

We welcome reports that a Chinese delegation will visit North Korea next week to urge a negotiated settlement of the disputes over inspections of its nuclear sites. We have been calling for China to take a more meaningful role in this potential conflict in terms of impressing upon Pyongyang the need to comply with the nuclear inspection requirements of the IAEA.

We also welcome reports that King Sihanouk of Cambodia is in Pyongyang for a visit and that it is possible that he will take up the matter of nuclear inspections.

We see here the concerns and efforts of the entire region—our Asia-Pacific region—to ensure that the Korean nuclear issue be kept from escalating. We join the other countries in the region in calling for the Pyongyang government to take heed of our concerns and desires to maintain peace and stability in our region. We ask the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to be more forthright and to continue its dialogue with the United Nations as well as with South Korea and the United States. While the issues appear to be unresolved, we remain confident that there will be no outbreak of hostilities. [passage omitted]

NPA: 'Large Areas' Reclaimed From Government

BK0504042194 Quezon City MALAYA in English 30 Mar 94 p 2

[By Chit Estella]

[Text] The New People's Army (NPA) has resumed its small tactical offensives and has succeeded in getting back under its control large areas that were previously wrested from it by government forces.

In a statement issued on the NPA's 25th anniversary, the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) admitted that the leftist underground movement has suffered reverses because of errors which it attributed to those who were subsequently expelled from the party.

But Gregorio "Ka [Comrade] Roger" Rosal, CPP spokesman, said yesterday, "Kasabay ng Partido Komunista ng Pilipinas at National Democratic Front, and Bagong Hukbong Bayan ay nagpapatupad ngayon ng kilusang pagwawasto upang puspusang maiwaksi ang mga kamalian sa maaga at di masustening pagpapataas ng antas ng gera at paglalaro sa insureksyon, at upang mapangibabawan ang mga pinsalang dulot ng mga kamaliang iyon [Alongside the Communist Party of the Philippines and the National Democratic Front, the New People's Army is implementing rectifications in order to correct errors as early as possible and to avoid elevating a war that we cannot sustain to a higher level and

mocking insurrection; it is also to indemnify the havoc brought about by these errors."

As a result of its rectification efforts, Rosal said, "Sa iba't ibang dako muling sumisigla ang mga taktikal na opensiba na isinasagawa ng mga relatibong maliliit na yunit ng Bagong Hukbong Bayan na umaasikaso kapwa sa gawaing masa at gawaing militar. Malalawak na eryl ang muling nababawi sa pamamagitan ng puspusang gawaing masa [In different areas, tactical offensives launched by smaller units of the New People's Army which have charge of both military and civic activities are gaining momentum. We have regained wide areas through intensified civic activities]."

He did not say which areas have returned to rebel control but indicated that the Ramos government has not been successful in crushing the rebellion as it claims.

Manila Unveils Development Projects for Baguio

BK0504061194 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 30 Mar 94 pp 1, 21

[By Rod L. Villa]

[Text] Speaker Jose de Venecia unveiled P [Philippine pesos] 29. 7 billion worth of public works and private sector infrastructural and development projects in ceremonies in Baguio City yesterday.

Most of the projects were being financed with long-term Japan loans with counterpart allotments approved by Malacanang [presidential office] and Congress, De Venecia said before Rotarians from Bulacan, Nueva Ecija Nueva Vizcaya, Isabela, Quirino, and Cagayan.

The projects include the P1.2-billion highway between Rosario and Pugo Marcos to Baguio City and the P536-million road from Naguillan to Burgos, La Union, to the Pines City.

With the speaker in surveying the Northern Luzon projects were Representatives Rolando Andaya head of the House appropriations committee; Representative Bernardo Vergara of Baguio City, who helped package the rebuilding program from La Union to the summer capital for President Ramos; and Secretary Gregorio Vigilar of public works and highways.

At the former Camp John Hay gathering, De Venecia said Taiwan's Tuntex Group has allocated P25 billion to redevelop the tourist city within the former United States military resort complex.

The Shoemart group led by Henry Sy has decided to build a P3-billion five star hotel with a shopping megamall in the old Pines Hotel location.

De Venecia and Vergara announced a P100-million flyover system between the city and La Trinidad, Benguet, to decongest the metropolis and create new satellite settlement areas.

De Venecia addressed the 75th anniversary of the Rotary International District (3770) convention. The district is headed by its president, Mar Tupaz.

The speaker challenged the Rotarians to harness their resources in participating in the government's agro-industrialization program through the build-operate-transfer law.

Arturo Enrile Appointed AFP Chief of Staff

*BK0504091694 Quezon City Radio Filipinas in English
0230 GMT 5 Apr 94*

[Text] The president has chosen a successor to retiring AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] Chief Lisandro Abadia. He is Lieutenant General Arturo Enrile, commanding general of the Philippine Army. Abadia is said to retire on 7 April. The turnover ceremony is scheduled for 12 April. The president also appointed three other officers to key military posts. Major General Romulo Yap, commander of the Central Visayas forces was named as the new Army chief.

Meantime, the outgoing Armed Forces chief says he is willing to work for government again after he retires. Lisandro Abadia made his farewell call to the Chief Executive yesterday [4 April].

Thailand

Embassy Expects U.S. To Link GSP Privileges

*BK0604031194 Bangkok THE NATION in English
6 Apr 94 p B1*

[By Manirat Chitsamankun]

[Text] Thai Embassy officials in Washington expect the United States to link its decision to extend tax concessions to Thailand to environmental protection issues when the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) agreement is reviewed in September.

A report from the embassy's commercial counsellor indicates that environmental issues are among general social issues likely to be considered in the review of the GSP for Thailand.

Addressing environmental issues through trade restrictions, however, has been opposed by some conservation groups such as Friends of the Earth, Greenpeace and the National Wildlife Foundation [as published], which argue that it was difficult to apply such pressure on trade.

The United States, the report noted is also likely to grant concessions to an additional 40 developing countries, especially from Africa.

Washington will further consider lowering the GSP's per capita income ceiling condition for some countries, as it feels the current set level is too high.

Meanwhile, the report said, US importers have lobbied for higher levels of imported goods under the GSP programme, especially for the three most active sectors—textiles, footwear and leather products.

But local producers of these products are strongly opposed to any increase, fearing an influx of cheap imports will hurt US industries.

Washington has reduced import tariffs affecting US\$19.5 trillion worth of goods under the GSP programme, cutting US\$500 million from the normal level.

Meanwhile, the European Union (EU) recently informed the Thai Commerce Ministry that it will announce new conditions for Union GSP privileges by June 15.

The EU is considering new tax concessions for its GSP programme that will take into account the level of economic development of exporting countries as well as the level of per capita income.

The Foreign Trade Department expects the EU might cut the volume of Thai exports in some categories under its GSP programme.

Last year, Thai exporters took full advantage of the GSP programme in many sectors, including textiles and apparel, yarn and processed pineapple.

The European Union's new conditions for its GSP programme are expected to be introduced next year.

Military Denies Helping Pol Pot Escape Pailin

*BK0604030094 Bangkok THE NATION in English
6 Apr 94 pp A1, A2*

[Text] Thai military officials yesterday dismissed Cambodian Co-Premier Prince Norodom Ranariddh's accusations that Thai soldiers had helped Khmer Rouge leader Pol Pot flee a recent government offensive on the radical faction's headquarters at Pailin in northwest Cambodia.

"The report is groundless. A convoy of trucks was used, but only to repatriate Cambodians fleeing the fighting into Thailand," armed forces spokesman Lt Gen Anuson Kritsana-seni said.

This was the only instance of a Thai convoy entering Cambodia without the permission of the Cambodian government, he said.

Foreign news agencies quoted Ranariddh as saying yesterday that Thailand had helped Pol Pot flee Pailin.

"Thailand will not be happy with us but we have pictures to prove it," the prince told reporters during a break in the second session of parliament.

"I can show you a picture of Pol Pot, his house being attacked, and Pol Pot escaping with cars and a convoy of trucks driving on a tarmac road inside Thai territory," he was quoted as saying.

The prince was adamant that the guerrilla leader escaped through Thai territory.

"It was not inside Cambodia. Cambodia does not have such good roads in that region," he said, but did not produce the photographs.

Anuson said such an accusation could destroy Thailand's image and insisted that Khmer Rouge leaders would be arrested and repatriated if found on Thai soil.

First Army Region Commander Lt Gen Chettha Thanacharo meanwhile said that the Army would fire a warning shot before opening fire should there be any further spillover of refugees into Thailand.

Thai officers along the Thai-Cambodian frontier said last week that Thai authorities did not provide refuge to Khmer Rouge forces in the wake of the fighting in Pailin, allowing only civilians to enter Thai territory.

Ranariddh meanwhile said his government was keeping the door open for talks with the Khmer Rouge. Reconciliation has been stressed by King Norodom Sihanouk, who on Friday returns to Cambodia from China, where he has undergone treatment for cancer.

A Khmer Rouge spokesman in Phnom Penh said the nominal Khmer Rouge leader, Khieu Samphan, would return to the Cambodian capital to pay homage to Sihanouk.

Minister Comments on Missing Russian Diplomat

BK0604033794 Bangkok THAILAND TIMES in English 6 Apr 94 p A3

[Text] Bangkok—Foreign Affairs Minister Sqd Ldr [Squadron Leader] Prasong Sunsiri yesterday said that all sides must bear responsibility for the disappearance of a Russian diplomat.

Sqd Ldr Prasong pointed out that it is the responsibility of the police to search and investigate the case, saying he was not directly in charge of the affair.

The Russian embassy has asked for cooperation from Foreign Ministry on this matter, he said.

He said he had provided Interior Minister Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut with the information in order to help the foreign ministry.

If Thai police couldn't find the missing third secretary Igor Makeyev, all must take responsibility, as it will tarnish the country's image because foreigners may view Thailand as an unsafe country.

The foreign minister said officers' suggestions that the Russian envoy had already left the country was only an assumption because his passport was found to have been left in Thailand.

He warned those who discussed such issue to be careful in what they say because it might cause confusion.

Writer Examines Ties With United Nations

BK0504035494 Bangkok THE NATION in English 5 Apr 94 p A6

["Comment" by Contributing Editor Professor Withit Mantaphon: "Thai-UN ties: From discourse to intercourse?"]

[Text] Any observer of the relations between Thailand and the United Nations (UN) can probably pinpoint the fact that politics and economics have been very much in the forefront of their discourse in recent decades.

The Cambodian issue, particularly the process towards peace between the warring factions, was the political agenda par excellence throughout the late 1970s and 1980s. The issue of free trade and the multilateral round of trade negotiations under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (Gatt) have superseded that political agenda during the present decade. There is no better testament to this than the more than 10,000 pages of key documents resulting from the Gatt negotiations which will lead to the establishment of the new World Trade Organization.

Has there been sufficient intercourse with other issues beyond politics and economics?

There has been a gradual shift towards broadening the relationship. For example, on a positive front, Thailand has become more committed to environmental issues under the UN umbrella. This orientation is seen in Thailand's own participation in the concretization of international instruments on the promotion and protection of the environment. These include the 1987 Montreal Protocol on Substances that deplete the ozone layer, and the various treaties and declarations resulting from the 1992 Rio Conference on Environment and Development. The latter include the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Convention on Climate Change.

On another front, the issue of human rights, democracy and development—and their interrelationship—have come more strongly to the fore. This was evidenced by Thailand's participation at the 1993 World Conference on Human Rights held in Vienna. Together with other countries, it adopted the World Declaration and Programme of Action on Human Rights which called for the adherence to and implementation of international human rights standards at the local level, including effective national mechanisms for the protection of human rights.

Yet, there are certain realities which undermine Thai-UN relations. The shortcomings may be highlighted as follows:

1. In Thai foreign policy, there is inadequate emphasis on democracy, and this is exemplified by its attitude towards the political situation in Burma. Although the various forums of the UN, including the UN Human Rights Commission, have called for reversion to democracy and release of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and other

elected leaders in Burma, Thailand has preferred to shun the issue of democracy in its relationship with Burma. It has been more willing to accommodate the Burmese military junta under the Thai and Asean policy of "constructive engagement" rather than distance itself from that element of authoritarianism and promote the cause of democracy.

This is a serious anomaly, as the present Thai Government was born of a democratic movement and owes its legitimacy to democratic underpinnings in 1992. Morally, it is obliged to uphold the flag of democracy internationally.

2. Foreign policy-making in Thai governmental circles tends to be bureaucratic; it is not sufficiently participatory. The presumption among key governmental entities is that it is they who should shape policy-making and the interrelationship with the UN.

Interestingly in several delegations sent to international meetings, the composition of the delegates is drawn purely from governmental circles rather than an admixture of people derived from non-governmental and governmental settings. Non-state actors, such as non-governmental organizations (NGOs), the business sector, community groups and concerned individuals, are not sufficiently consulted and granted adequate attention. This is particularly related to the question of access to and from NGOs in setting the agenda for foreign policy, especially in regard to life and death issues such as democracy, development, human rights, the environment and peace.

Are there any public hearings/enquiries on foreign policy-making, and if so, how transparent and accountable are the authorities?

3. On many issues of concern to Thailand and the UN, the response on the part of the Thai authorities is reactive rather than proactive. This is exemplified by the inadequate participation of Thai representatives in several UN forums.

In the key setting of the UN Human Rights Commission, Thailand is merely an observer rather than a full-fledged delegate. This implies that events are likely to shape Thailand rather than the reverse. This creates an imbalance, as the response from the authorities tends to be too late, and negative repercussions will ensure unnecessarily.

4. The policy at the national level is more curative than preventive on many issues. For example, while Thailand complains that it has many Burmese refugees on its soil, it fails to deal sufficiently with the root causes of such displacement, especially the undemocratic regime in power in Burma, as part of preventive action.

Likewise, the recent debacle concerning 25,000 Cambodian refugees who sought refuge on Thai territory to escape from fighting between the Khmer Rouge and Cambodian government forces in the Pailin area was a

situation where international censure could have been prevented. In pushing those refugees back to Cambodia without international monitoring and transparency, Thailand incurred the reprimand of the international community. The damage could have been avoided if the authorities had allowed the refugees to stay in Thailand temporarily and had worked towards transparency of conduct in the search for humane solutions.

5. The argument of national security and the executive entities vested the powers to deal with national security issues in Thailand are both obsolete. They are the ideological vestiges of the Cold War days, which are imbued with vested interests often aimed at self-perpetuation.

Precisely because foreign policy and Thai-UN relations are at times shaped by such obsolete residues, the Thai response to several international issues is parochial rather than international. A key example is the persistent argument used by the parochial approach to claim that refugees are merely "illegal immigrants" without rights in Thailand. This flies in the face of the international perception of refugees, namely those fleeing for well-founded fear of persecution and other dangers in their country of origin, and the fact that refugees have guaranteed international rights, such as the right not to be pushed back to areas where they may fear persecution and other dangers.

The international scenario has changed radically and the notion of "security" now being advocated has to be based more upon issues of human security, development, democracy, human rights and peace.

6. Thai relations with the UN are still searching to grapple with transnational issues, such as cross-frontier environmental degradation, diseases (e.g. Aids), human rights violations, criminality such as the sale and trafficking of women and children for sexual purposes and armed conflicts. Evidently, unilateral action does not suffice, and international cooperation is a key to both prevention and cure.

However, precisely because Thai foreign policy is reactive rather than proactive, the likelihood of damage looms large.

7. The Thai-UN relationship is more often than not bifocal; it concentrates on politics and economics rather than a broader range of social and other issues. The latter include the concerns of marginalized groups, and the lack of equity and social justice both locally and internationally. There is inadequate attention for the issue of income distribution and resource reallocation to help those who are poor and peripheralized. Gender and racial discrimination also rears its head in many circles, both national and international.

It is precisely this neglect that renders Thai foreign policy and its intercourse with the UN less than comprehensive.

For the future, the Thai-UN agenda should address the above failings by underlining the following components:

- democracy, development, environment, peace and human rights as key underpinnings of Thai foreign policy,
- a more participatory and pluralistic process for formulating and disseminating foreign policy, especially with the cooperation of non-state actors and the institution of public hearings/enquiries,
- a more proactive approach in and beyond the UN, as well as more emphasis on preventive action and early-warning against possible violations of international standards,
- more accession to international treaties on human rights and effective implementation of international standards to counter undue nationalism and parochialism,
- a more humane and people-centred vision of national and international security, shunning the vestiges of the ideological past,
- a more effective response to and an agenda on transnational issues,
- a more concrete insertion of social and non-political/economic issues in the priorities of foreign policy.

The impact on Thai-UN relations can be reinforced by activities within and beyond the UN as follows:

Multilateral level:

- establishment of an agenda for peace and security with a more people-based vision
- adoption of an agenda for social development in a more pluralistic setting
- promotion of the linkage between democracy, development, environment, peace and human rights, and transnational action

Regional/sub-regional/bilateral levels:

- incorporation of issues of social development, for example a social development agenda, into all regional and other forums that deal with economic, political, peace and security issues (e.g. the Asean regional forum and Asean Free Trade Area, and bilateral joint commissions)
- establishment of independent and accessible human rights system to prevent and remedy human rights abuses
- enhancement of the linkage between democracy, development, environment, peace and human rights in the national and transnational setting

National/local levels:

- establishment of human rights units in all government ministries to promote human rights and its linkage with the other issues noted above
- adoption of national plans of action on human rights and their linkage with other issues
- institution of a national human rights mechanism which is accessible, independent and transparent

With these orientations in mind, we can work towards ensuring that the discourse is not relegated to the realm of lip services, and that it becomes a forward-looking interaction well into next century.

New Consulates To Open in Auckland, Latvia

BK0604103394 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in English 0000 GMT 6 Apr 94

[Text] The Cabinet yesterday approved the Ministry of Foreign Affairs' proposal to open a Thai consulate in Auckland, which is the largest city and a major gateway of New Zealand. New Zealand has a policy called Asia 2000 to expand its relationship with Asian countries. Thailand thus deems it appropriate to open an honorary consulate to deal with the increased trade and tourism. The Cabinet also approved the appointment of Sir Michael Wales as the honorary consul for Thailand in Auckland.

Meanwhile, the Cabinet approved the opening of the honorary consulate in the Republic of Latvia and the appointment of Mr. Prasong Chongrattanakun the honorary consul of the Republic of Latvia to Thailand.

Commander Provides View on Amendment Debate

BK0504054094 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 5 Apr 94 p 2

[Text] Army Commander-in-Chief Gen Wimon Wongwanit yesterday said he voted in support of the Opposition's constitution amendment bill last week because the Government-proposed bills were based on the 1992 Constitution criticised as being undemocratic and dictatorial.

The 1992 Constitution was drafted at the order of the now-defunct National Peace-keeping Council [NPKC] which overthrew the Chatchai Chunnawan Government on February 23, 1991.

Gen Wimon said he thought it proper to support the Opposition bill based on the 1978 Constitution which had no connection with the NPKC in any way.

If we truly want to discard the dictatorial image of the NPKC, the proposed amendments should be based on the 1978 Constitution, he said.

The Army chief said any amendment of the 1992 Constitution was likely to come in for criticism from some groups.

He said he wanted to see the nation united but thought this would be difficult while criticisms persisted.

A number of issues might yet be amended in the Opposition draft.

He said the reduction in the eligible voting age to 18 had divided senators and he hoped the committee appointed to scrutinise the bill would look carefully into the matter.

Gen Wimon said senators supporting the Opposition last Thursday had acted independently.

This contradicts another senator who claimed Upper House members had been lobbied to vote in favour of the Opposition.

The Army commander yesterday said he was worried some people might exploit the present situation.

He also thought it improper to say the situation would be tense during the scrutiny of the Constitution.

Navy Commander-in-Chief Adm Prachet Siridet said senators voted for the Opposition bill because they found it acceptable.

He also came to the defence of Defence Minister Gen Wichit Sukmak who is under attack from Government MPs for voting for the Opposition draft.

Adm Prachet said Gen Wichit was acting in his capacity as a senator, not a Cabinet member, when he voted on the issue.

He said any move such as replacing Gen Wichit should be based on reason.

Adm Prachet said the Government had made it clear from the beginning that the attempt to amend the Constitution had nothing to do with the Government and senators were free to exercise their own judgement.

House Military Committee chairman Gen Athit Kamlang-ek yesterday also backed Gen Wichit by saying he did not think the minister had committed any grave mistakes.

"I know Prime Minister Chuan Likphai quite well and don't think he will replace Gen Wichit. He is polite and has respect for other people," said the former army commander.

Mr Chuan, meanwhile last night vouched his support for Gen Wichit.

The premier said he fully understood the general whom he met for talks yesterday.

He said Gen Wichit did not vote for the change in the agenda to place the Opposition draft ahead of the eight amendment bills proposed by the coalition parties because he did not support the move.

The defence minister voted in favour of the Opposition draft because he felt the eight amendment bills were not sponsored by the Government, but the coalition parties.

The prime minister praised Gen Wichit as an honest and responsible man citing his cooperation in amending the capital peacekeeper's law.

Earlier, Mr Chuan said there was no misunderstanding on Gen Wichit's part since he knew from the beginning the amendments were not government drafts. He was

not asked to vote for them as everyone had the right to exercise their own judgement.

The Premier also said there was no law prohibiting Gen Wichit from being both a senator and cabinet minister.

He would not say what was discussed with Gen Wichit yesterday but said:

"Gen Wichit is a soldier and a gentleman and he is not afraid of anything."

Gen Wichit yesterday refused comment on reports that Democrat Party MPs were pressing him to resign after he supported the Opposition-sponsored constitution amendment bill.

Gen Wichit, a senator appointed to the defence portfolio under the Democrat quota, insisted he had the right under the Constitution to a free vote.

The Defence Minister last week joined the majority of senators and the entire Opposition in an unprecedented move to beat the government-sponsored constitution amendment bills during the special session of Parliament.

Democrat MPs are reportedly angry with Gen Wichit and want him expelled from the Chuan Likphai Cabinet.

Gen Wichit denied discussing any political issues with the Premier yesterday.

He said the meeting was about the opening of the Thai-Lao Friendship Bridge scheduled for Friday.

He also denied he was told to choose between being a senator and a minister or that there had been any political pressure put on him.

It had earlier been reported that Gen Wichit told Mr Chuan he had voted with the Senate because he was afraid his lack of cooperation with the military might affect his work at the Defence Ministry.

Mr Chuan said there was no need for the Defence Minister to explain his vote to the Cabinet.

Central Bank Reports Status of Economy

BK0604102894 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 0000 GMT 6 Apr 94

[Text] Thailand's overall economic situation in 1993 was better than previously estimated. The country's economic growth rates increased from 7.6 percent in 1992 to 7.8 percent in 1993. In 1994, there are several factors, both external and internal, indicating that the Thai economic growth rate will exceed 8 percent, but it may result in a more severe inflation rate above 4.2 percent.

Aphisit Wetchachiwa, spokesman of the Prime Minister's Office, gave a briefing on the outcome of yesterday's cabinet meeting and said that the cabinet acknowledged the above-mentioned report presented by the governor of the Bank of Thailand. According to the report, the

International Monetary Fund [IMF] has estimated that Thailand's total export value this year will possibly increase by more than 15 percent because the economies of its trading partners, especially the United States, are improving. Besides, there has also been greater demand for Thai goods in Japan and Europe.

Thailand, however, is expected to suffer a greater trade deficit than originally estimated due to the increased import of goods for use in expanding export-oriented production. Regarding competition in goods exports, there will be new competitors—China and Vietnam. Due to greater export expansion in 1994, possible shortages of labor and raw materials are predicted. Thailand will not be faced with a capital shortage as has happened in the past because investors consider Thailand to still have good basic factors for investment. The influx of foreign capital contributes to better financial liquidity. The expansion of loans is expected to reach 22 percent—a considerably high rate when compared to that of 20 percent in 1993. To maintain economic stability in Thailand, IMF representatives advised the Thai Government to establish a highly efficient savings system and at the same time cut down expenses.

Vietnam

Nguyen Manh Cam on Results of Cambodia Visit
BK0504144594 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 4 Apr 94

[Interview with Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam by unidentified correspondent on results of Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet's official friendship visit to the Kingdom of Cambodia from 2 to 3 April; recorded—place and date not given]

[Text] [Correspondent] Comrade foreign minister, Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet has just concluded his official friendship visit to the Kingdom of Cambodia. Could you please tell us the main points about the results of that visit?

[Nguyen Manh Cam] Even though Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet's visit to Cambodia this time was very short, it brought about very fine results. First of all, both sides reiterated the principles governing bilateral relations in the new situation. Those principles are based on mutual respect for each country's independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity; noninterference in each other's internal affairs; and cooperation for mutual benefit. Those principles provide the basis for the two countries to promote friendship and good neighborliness. In other words, it is necessary to further consolidate the time-honored ties between the two peoples. Based on those principles, our prime minister and the Cambodian first and second prime ministers as well as the two government delegations agreed on the need to take practical measures to further develop bilateral relations. This move will benefit not only each country's development,

but also regional development as a whole. These measures consist, first of all, of efforts to step up economic, trade, cultural, scientific-technological, educational, and training cooperation. Generally speaking, this cooperation involves all areas of activities. Nonetheless, top priority is given to economic and trade cooperation. Therefore, on this occasion, the two sides signed a trade agreement under which the two countries will accelerate goods exchanges a step further. Regarding economic cooperation, the two sides agreed to step up cooperation under different forms, including joint ventures and participation of Vietnamese companies in bidding for contracts to build projects funded by aid to Cambodia from foreign countries or international organizations. Refund and other forms of cooperation will be available, too.

Regarding trade, along with efforts to step up goods exchanges, the Cambodian side made an earnest request for goods transit permission. We gave this request very favorable consideration based on the principle of mutual benefit.

Regarding other areas of cooperation, the two sides agreed on cultural and scientific-technological exchanges. In particular, the Cambodian delegation wanted us to continue to help Cambodia with cadre training and human resources development. We also concurred with the Cambodian side on this issue.

We try our best to promote bilateral relations based on the principle of mutual benefit. Nonetheless, as far as bilateral ties are concerned, a number of problems still need to be resolved. It must be said that, generally speaking, broad sections of public opinion show due concern for those problems. The first problem involves the border issue. According to the Cambodian side, there are many factions in Cambodia. Therefore, it is necessary to reconsider the border issue and take measures to resolve existing problems.

The second problem involves Vietnamese residents in Cambodia. In the past, due to the Khmer Rouge massacre of Vietnamese, a number of Vietnamese residents fled to the border area. In the meantime, Vietnamese nationals who stay in Cambodia often fall victim to the Khmer Rouge's attacks and cruel massacres. Therefore, it is necessary to ensure the safety of Vietnamese residents in Cambodia. At the same time, it is necessary to resolve the issue relating to the number of Vietnamese residents who are stranded in the border area.

[Correspondent] Comrade foreign minister, during Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet's visit, the Vietnamese prime minister and the two Cambodian co-prime ministers discussed the problems that you have already mentioned. Did they agree on any problem-solving methods?

[Nguyen Manh Cam] This is part of the very important contents of the exchanges of views this time between Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet and the two Cambodian co-prime ministers, as well as between the two government delegations.

First of all, regarding the border issue, we made it known to Cambodia that it is our intention to resolve this issue at an early date in order to turn the Vietnamese-Cambodian border into an area of long-lasting peace and friendship for the two nations. Needless to say, if this goal is realized, there will be conditions for the two countries to enjoy stability, which, in turn, will benefit the region as a whole.

Based on this principle, the two sides agreed on the formation of a joint committee of specialists to exchange views on ways to resolve this problem according to the contents of different documents reached so far.

Secondly, there is another aspect of the border issue which is worth noting here, namely order and stability in the border area at present. At times, different incidents have taken place along the border which adversely affected mutual understanding. Also, we must mention the situation concerning smuggling activities. During his visit to Cambodia, Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet made a very clear analysis of the advantages and disadvantages of the situation and stressed the need to ensure order and stability in the border area. As a result, the Cambodian leadership unanimously concurred with the need to set up a joint committee comprising representatives of agencies and localities concerned to help maintain order and ensure stability along the border. This move will help prevent the movement of illegal migrants and other violations which are likely to happen because of a lack of a well-defined border demarcation line. However, this move is designed especially to deal with smuggling activities, which are detrimental to both sides.

Cambodian First Prime Minister Ranariddh as well as Second Prime Minister Hun Sen and the Cambodian Government delegation were very much in agreement that border stability and order must be quickly restored, and especially that the two sides must work together to counter smuggling.

With respect to Vietnamese residents, our prime minister clearly stated that Vietnamese residents have been living in Cambodia for several generations. They have shared weal and woe with the Cambodian people through all stages of history. They have shared victories and difficulties with the Cambodian people and they have offered their contribution to national construction. Therefore, they deserve correct treatment so that they can conduct their own business in peace. Their business is not only for their own benefit, but also for building and reconstructing Cambodia.

This time, First Prime Minister Ranariddh stated clearly that the Royal Government of the Kingdom of Cambodia will continue the policy of Prince Sihanouk when he was the head of state before 1970. He also said that the Royal Government will ensure safety as well as life so that the Vietnamese residents can enjoy the same conditions as other ethnic groups in Cambodia.

Regarding those who are stranded in the border area, we said clearly that this is not an issue of our concern only,

but it also attracts attention from the region, the world, and international organizations. This issue, if left unsolved, will not be beneficial. The Cambodian side said that several investigations have been conducted lately leading to the return of some people. We suggested that this issue continue to be settled early and to return these people to Cambodia because they have been living there for many years with their families, assets, and property. Therefore, if they can return they will find it easier to get on with their lives and to contribute to Cambodian reconstruction. Prime Minister Hun Sen said that he would try his best.

[Correspondent] Dear minister, Vietnam and Cambodia signed four agreements during the visit. Can you inform us which issues of these four agreements will be implemented quickly in the intermediate period?

[Nguyen Manh Cam] It is correct that four agreements were signed during the visit. They include an agreement on trade cooperation; an agreement on transit goods; an agreement on cultural, education, scientific, and technical cooperation; and an agreement on creating a joint committee for field cooperation to help the two governments carrying out their agreements.

I believe that in the current conditions, stemming from the expectations of both sides, we must quickly form committees to settle the border issue and the issue of Vietnamese residents in Cambodia. Other issues will continue to be accelerated. Lately, we have accelerated steps in economic and trade relations. Moreover, we must quickly form a joint committee in order to review bilateral relations before finding measures to accelerate these relations for the better.

I believe that Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet's visit opened a totally new stage in relations between the two countries. It also correctly executed the principles agreed to by the two sides about current relations. Therefore, I believe that relations between the two countries will be further accelerated, thus contributing to regional peace and stability.

[Correspondent] Thank you, minister.

Japan Announces 'Forced' Refugee Repatriation

BK0504150694 Hanoi VNA in English 1447 GMT 5 Apr 94

[Text] Hanoi VNA April 5—The Japanese Government has decided that all Vietnamese nationals who arrived in Japan after March 5, 1994 for refuge will be forced to return to Vietnam without processing, it is announced by the Japanese Embassy here today.

The announcement adds that the decision was made on March 4, 1994 in accordance with the statement of the international conference on Indochinese refugees held in Geneva on February 14, 1994 and that the Japanese side will not provide any support money for those people.

Do Muoi Receives Japanese Business Delegation

BK0504152394 Hanoi VNA in English 1505 GMT 5 Apr 94

[Text] Hanoi VNA April 5—General Secretary of the Vietnam Communist Party Do Muoi received today a delegation of the Japan-Vietnam Economic Committee now on a visit to Vietnam.

Mr Akira Nishio, president of the committee, director of the Nissho Iwai Company, and other members of the delegation highly appreciated Vietnam's success during its economic renovation process, and expressed their pleasure at the fine development of the relations of the two countries. They said they believed that the trade and economic ties between Vietnam and Japan would be ever expanded in a more effective way.

Speaking to his guests, General Secretary Do Muoi expressed his hope that Japanese businessmen would further promote their investment in Vietnam, share their experience in economic management, and assist Vietnam in personnel training.

The general secretary affirmed Vietnam's open-door policy with priority given to foreign investors in the principle of equality, mutual benefit and respect.

Also present at the reception was Mr Hiroyuki Yushita, Japanese ambassador to Vietnam.

Lao Leaders Receive Deputy Prime Minister

BK0604071294 Hanoi VNA in English 0644 GMT 6 Apr 94

[Text] Hanoi VNA April 6—Mr Khamtai Siphandon, chairman of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party (LPRP) and prime minister of Laos, and Mr Nouthak Phoumsavan, president of the Laos, separately received in Vientiane on April 5 Mr Phan Van Khai, deputy prime minister and head of a delegation of the Vietnamese Government to the 16th session of the Vietnam-Laos Inter-Governmental Commission for Economic, Cultural, Scientific and Technological Cooperation held there. While receiving Deputy Prime Minister Phan Van Khai, Prime Minister Khamtai Siphandon wished the special friendship and comprehensive cooperation between the two countries further development.

For his part, Deputy Prime Minister Phan Van Khai highlighted the results of this session. During his reception, President Nouthak Phoumsavan reaffirmed that the Lao Government and people would do all they could to constantly consolidate and develop the relations of friendship and special fraternal solidarity between the two parties and states.

More on Minister's Meeting With PLO Official

BK0504152094 Hanoi VNA in English 1451 GMT 5 Apr 94

[Text] Hanoi VNA April 5—Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam held talks here this morning with his Palestinian counterpart, Mr Faruq Qaddumi, now on an official visit to Vietnam.

The talks were also attended by, among others, Deputy Foreign Minister Nguyen Dy Nien, deputy head of the External Relations Commission of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Coa Van Tai, and Palestinian Ambassador to Vietnam Sa'id Khalil al-Masri. [sentence as received]

Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam reiterated the firm stance of the Vietnamese party, state and people in supporting the just struggle of the Palestinians under the leadership of the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) for their sacred and fundamental national rights which include the right to self-determination and the right to establish an independent Palestinian state. He said Vietnam supported the PLO's correct position in the on-going Israel-Palestine talks.

For his part, the Palestinian chief diplomat said he was glad at his first visit to Vietnam, a nation which had fought undauntedly in the struggle for national independence and freedom in the past and which was achieving great success in the current renovation process and national reconstruction.

The two sides condemned the killing of the innocent civilians in Hebron by Israeli extremists, which they said was intended to hamper the Middle East peace process. They demanded, that the Israeli authorities take effective measures to stop the recurrence of similar acts. The two sides also exchanged views on a wide range of international and regional issues of common concern, and steps to consolidate and enhance the friendly and cooperative relations between the two countries.

Trans-Vietnam Power Line Begins Test Operation

BK0504091194 Hanoi VNA in English 0600 GMT 5 Apr 94

[Text] Hanoi VNA April 5—The Trans-Vietnam 500-kv [kilovolt] power transmission line began test operation this morning, announced the Ministry of Energy.

In anticipation of the commission of the north-south line, the eighth and also the last turbine generator of the Hoa Binh Hydro-Electric Power Plant was officially hooked to the national grid yesterday after seven days' test run.

Since the first generator unit of the Hoa Binh Hydro-Electric Power Plant was operational on Dec. 31, 1988, the plant has supplied 17.108 billion kwh [kilowatt hours].

Australia**BRA Statement Attacks UN Envoy for Comments***BK0204124794 Melbourne Radio Australia in English
1100 GMT 2 Apr 94*

[Text] The Bougainville Revolutionary Army [BRA] fighting for independence of the island from Papua New Guinea [PNG] has dissociated itself from a suggestion that secession is no longer achievable. In a statement issued in Sydney, the leader of the BRA, Francis Ona, attacked the rebel government's United Nations representative, Mike Foster, for comments he made in an interview on Papua New Guinea Radio. Sean Dorney reports:

[Begin recording] [Dorney] In what appeared at the time to be a conciliatory statement, Mr. Foster told the NBC (National Broadcasting Corporation) of PNG, the war would drag on indefinitely unless there was some give and take.

[Foster] We don't believe that the request for unconditional surrender is realistic and we don't believe either that the complete and immediate secession is realistic but somewhere in the middle there is a shared ground and I think for the sake of the whole of the Pacific region we should cease the arm conflict and begin the discussions that can lead to peace and restoration of understanding and human rights values.

[Dorney] However, Mr. Foster has now been attacked by the secessionists, who accused him of creating confusion and misunderstanding. Francis Ona is quoted as saying he'll maintain struggle for independent Bougainville. [end recording]

Secessionists 'Split' After UN Envoy's Remarks*BK0304090094 Melbourne Radio Australia in English
0500 GMT 3 Apr 94*

[Text] A split is emerging between Bougainville secessionists who favor a negotiated settlement of the five-year-old war and those who are against making any concessions in their demands for independence. Sean Dorney reports on a flurry of conflicting statements that had followed comments on Papua New Guinea [PNG] national radio by the secessionist representative to the United Nations, Mike Foster.

[Begin Dorney recording] Interviewed on the PNG National Broadcasting Commission last week, Mr. Foster said there had to be some give and take from both sides and that the Wingti government's expectation of an unconditional surrender was as unrealistic as the rebel's expectation of complete and immediate secession. A statement issued from Sydney in the name of President Francis Ona attacked Mike Foster for letting down the revolution. He was also accused of being the White Judas of Bougainville by Lilian Cross, the Bougainvillian who

is recently granted political asylum in Australia. However, a statement issued from Honiara in the name of Vice President Joseph Kabui sharply defended Mr. Foster and said the Bougainville freedom movement in Australia had no right to speak for the Bougainville interim government. In Papua New Guinea, there is division too. The minister for Bougainville affairs can't get the Wingti cabinet to endorse his support for Pan-Bougainville talks. [end recording]

Government Censors Coverage of Leaders' Meeting*BK0604115394 Hong Kong AFP in English 0745 GMT
6 Apr 94*

[Text] PORT MORESBY, April 6 (AFP)—The Papua New Guinea government on Wednesday banned national radio from broadcasting news of a controversial provincial premiers' conference. Communications minister Martin Thompson ordered the National Broadcasting Commission (NBC) not to broadcast news from the conference this week. The move was thought to be one of the first acts of media censorship here, and it came from the minister who only last month presented the country's first official communications policy which guaranteed press freedoms.

Premiers from the five island provinces of Manus, New Ireland, East and West New Britain and Bougainville were meeting to discuss Port Moresby's move to take away powers from provincial governments and give them to national parliamentarians and village level governments. The provinces have threatened to secede if the government does not back down.

In a statement released from Prime Minister Paias Wingti's office, Thompson said the NBC had been told not to broadcast anything arising from the premier's meeting. The statement said the order was issued to NBC chairman Alkan Tololo and all 19 provincial station managers. It said the order was issued under sections of the NBC Act which allowed him to direct the commission not to broadcast certain issues.

Thompson said while it was NBC's duty to provide balanced, objective and impartial broadcasting service, it was paramount that such services should reflect the overall drive for national unity and that extreme care should be taken in broadcasting material that could inflame racial or sectional feelings. NBC management was not immediately available for comment. Other media organisations including three newspapers and a television station were bracing for confrontation if the news ban was extended to them.

Thompson's communication policy presented to parliament last month said in part that "the radio industry should grow as a free medium following the rights provided by the PNG constitution. The extent of this freedom is underscored by the laws which prohibit censorship of broadcast material."

